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THE ARCHITECT

THE ARCHITECT PRESS
Publishers

IRVING F. MORROW
EDITOR

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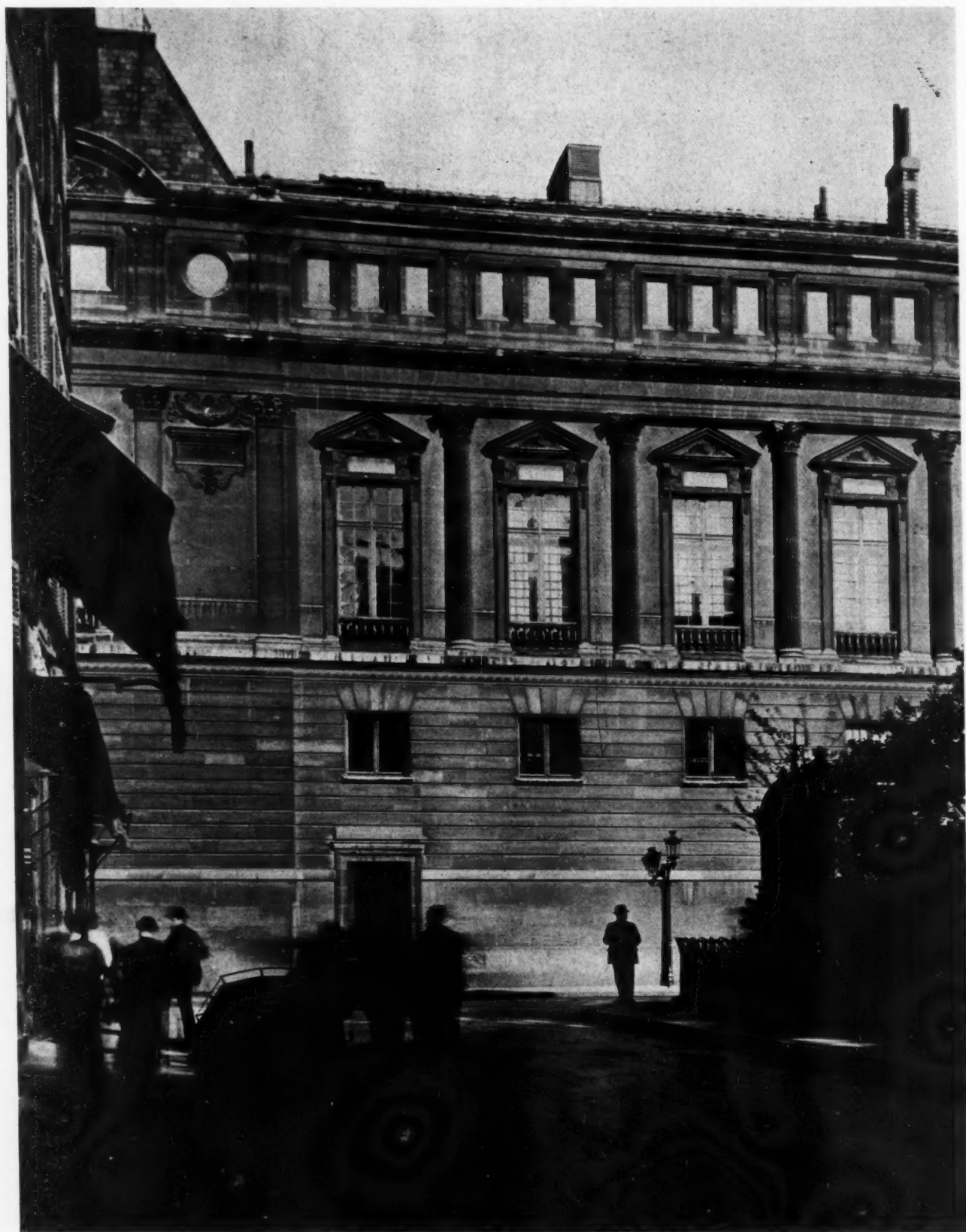
OCTOBER, 1918

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Published in the interest of the architectural profession, on the first of each month, at 245 Mission Street, San Francisco. Entered as second class matter August 4, 1911. Subscription price in the United States and possessions, \$5.00 a year; foreign and Canadian, \$6.00 a year. Single copies, \$1.00.

Changes in, or copy for new advertisements, must reach the office of publication not later than the fifteenth of the month preceding issue. Advertising rates and any other information will gladly be given on application.

The editor will be pleased to consider contributions of interest to the profession. When payment for same is desired, this fact should be stated.



BIBLIOTHEQUE NATIONALE—PARIS
Facade on the Rue de Richelieu

THE ARCHITECT

VOL. XVI

SAN FRANCISCO, OCTOBER, 1918

NO. 4

The Sacramento State Buildings Competition

By B. J. S. CAHILL, Architect

IT would be an interesting experiment, when the next important competition come up, to provide for and appoint two separate juries to sit and act in two separate cities; the plans being passed from one to the other without communication or comment. We should probably then find that each city had selected a different set of plans. Also if the same jury were to sit on the same set of plans after an interval of ten years it is quite probable that their second selection would not coincide with their first. In other words, assuming conscientious jury-men of ability and experience in all cases, there yet remains a margin of variability due one the one hand to personal view point and on the other to passing fashion, the mode of the moment. The personnel of the jury is a determining factor, and so is that even more inscrutable thing thing than personality—vogue.

Each competitor likely to succeed is well aware of these factors and aims with all his might to measure up to the judges' probable predilections, if known, and otherwise to do and do only the sort of thing that is "being done." To this end he keeps *au courant* with current competitions. It is really a highly specialized game and only profitable to those who are initiated, know the rules and are practiced in the requisite technique. This interesting game, however, is not all that there is of American Architecture. Some of our stronger men work entirely outside the system. On the other hand there are signs that in its ever widening scope it will sooner or later overtake and envelop our entire architectural galaxy.

At first one fears that the competition system spells the end of originality and personal expression, yet it shows unexpected scope for strong individuality, and every now and then under its rules some astonishing plunge into new fields reveals how accommodating the system may become under the impulse of master minds who have yet submitted to its ordinances and its ritual.

Apart, then, from a conscientious juror's will to select the plan most in accord with the programme there is an unconscious bias, an unresolved residuum of judgment which varies in different individuals and also in the same individual at different times. Indeed, it would take by no means ten years to change a man's views: in many cases they might conceivably change over night. In fact where judgment hangs on a hair thread, and it often does, decision one way or the other may be almost entirely accidental and arbitrary.

And it should be noted that, as time goes on and the standards of competitive drawings become more fixed, and larger and larger numbers of expert architects participate, and the problems for solution occur more frequently and come to be almost established for each type of public building, it follows that the margin of preference inherent in the plans will grow smaller and smaller and

the accidental factors of the jurors' personality coupled with the vogue of the moment may assume greater importance than in cases where one set of plans obviously outclasses all others, as frequently happened in earlier competitions before the game was thoroughly established or its votaries as expert and as numerous as now.

One of the most striking features of the competitive system as now standardized and perfected is the development of the plan,—the monumental, organic, symmetrical picture plan with its infinite niceties of proportion, rhythm, major and minor episodes, axes, pochet, etc., as intricate and exacting as the structure of a sonnet or a sonata. And along with the high development of the structure of the plan (which has nothing to do with the structure of the building) has come an opposite and equivalent restriction of the design to the simple elements of one school, eclectic in origin perhaps, but now reduced to the almost unvarying composite refined "American style."

This being admitted, it follows that in any competition of a not too simple building the plan will call for more hard thinking and intensive study than the design. It is the part of the problem that challenges attention first and with its solution the section or design naturally develops. But the exterior in a large sense is made up of the conventional elements that have all been invented ages ago, and which are now applied to the conditions of the plan with what ingenuity of arrangement can be brought to bear in whatever time remains for the problem after the plan has been perfected.

Quite obviously there will be those who strive to wed telling facades to their plans, and sometimes a genius who succeeds in conceiving both plan and design which express each other in perfect beauty and fitness; but this is an ideal almost impossible of attainment, and therefore as a rule the compelling design is achieved at the expense of the perfect plan. The man who has the patience necessary to hammer out the perfect plan often lacks the inspiration to conceive the compelling design or has not the time left to develop it.

In a broad general way then, a juror's choice is also two-fold like the competition. He will lay stress on a perfect plan or on a compelling design. His personal inclination will determine which; and this personal inclination will be also unconsciously swayed by the thing in the air which we have called the mode of the moment, but which in the present instance might be called the mood of the moment. I allude, of course, to war and war conditions.

Now it is a curious thing that the business man, the layman, the inexpert hard-headed citizen, if put on a jury will generally lean to the compelling design as far as he can recognize it. Personally I think he is right because he is following a fundamental impulse of the human race.

This is indeed, the whole end and function of beauty. Oddly enough the professional architect as a juror, especially one who is known himself to be a creator of compelling designs, will often favor technical rather than inspirational efforts. It would be a nice psychological problem to show why a scientific expert prefers to go on record as an art critic or why a designer of established reputation, when called upon to exploit his accredited faculty, will insist on exhibiting his scientific side only.

Over and above these subtleties of human judgment at the present time is the shadow of the Great War. When the Hun is at the gate everything must be dropped instantly that does not contribute to the one sole end of existence until the danger has passed. War makes enormous demands on plain practical construction, while Architecture goes into eclipse. This has led some of our engineering friends to imagine that there is to be no more architecture. Absurd as this contention actually is there is no doubt that for the time being we not only refrain from building monumentally until the war is over but we find difficulty even in considering monumental design for a future date other than in the sense of cheap ready-made vestiture to cover the more obvious needs of practical planning upon which the temper of the times lays such compelling emphasis.

These considerations in general may help to clear the atmosphere over the field of the recent architectural contest and make plain why there was victory in one case and why there was defeat in others.

The State Library and Office Building competition called for a pair of buildings to be set on separate blocks, opposite the State Capitol at Sacramento. They were to cost about \$3,000,000 and architects were admitted to the competition from all over the country. This surely was a mistake. Of all things, State buildings which are exclusively devoted to state institutions and all that goes

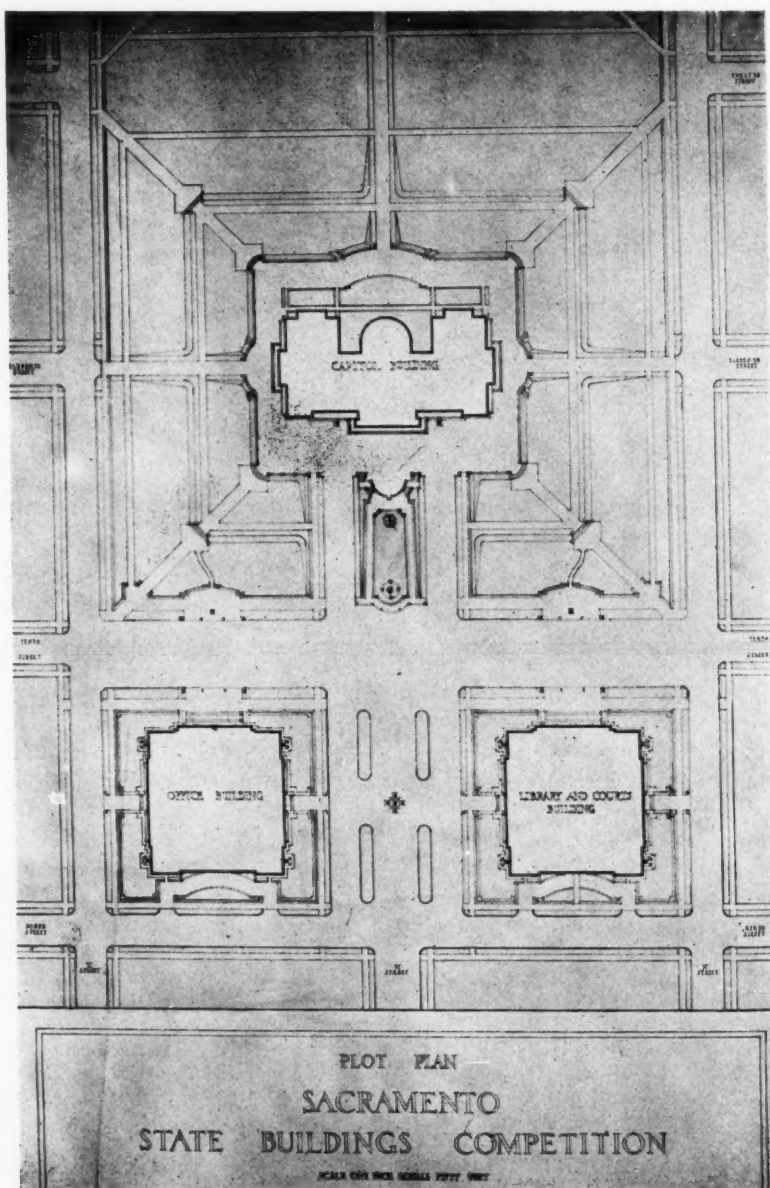
on within state boundaries should be designed by architects within the state and built by contractors and of materials both in and of the State, else how in any complete sense can we call them State buildings? Do we invite our governors and officials from all over the federal map? If the reader will think it over from this angle the absurdity of the matter will sooner or later come right home to him.

Sixty four architects responded and among them were some of the best known firms in the country beside those who came in among the eight selected for a second contest. Such firm names as Palmer and Hornbostle, John Russell Pope, York and Sawyer, and our own Bakewell and Brown will give a forceful idea as to the class of talent that engaged in the contest and will show that the winners had a hard run and no easy victory. The eight firms chosen for the final contest were the following: Dennison and Hiron, James Gamble Rogers, and Tracy & Swartwout, all of New York; Wm. D. Hewitt and Percy Ash, N. C. Curtis associated, of Philadelphia, Adolf Scherrer of Indianapolis; Bliss & Faville, Ward & Blohme and Weeks & Day, all of San Francisco.

The Architectural Jurors in the final were Wm. M. Kendall and Henry Bacon, both of New York and Sylvain Schnaittacher of San Francisco. There were others on the jury but the selection was made exclusively, as is usual, by the architects and not by the laymen, although the State Librarian, Mr. Fergu-

son was called in for his technical concurrence.

The buildings were for the State Library and Law Courts on one side and an office block to house various State Institutions on the other. With quite a limited opportunity to go into details the writer cannot escape the conviction that the award was made on the plans and on the admirable way in which the rather complicated conditions of the programme were reduced to very simple, orderly and clean-cut arrangements that would seem very



Plot Plan
SACRAMENTO STATE BUILDINGS COMPETITION
(Winning Design) Weeks & Day, Architects

difficult to improve upon, except in some minor details upon which we shall be rash enough to comment later.

Since both buildings were to flank the main axis of the State Capitol it became at once obvious that they should balance each other in bulk and in general form. Seeing that the Library was the less flexible by reason of its large subdivisions, this building had to be worked out first and the resulting envelope imposed on its mate with the necessary minor modifications. But this did not mean that the office building should be nothing more than a hollow rectangle in outward simulation of the Library.

An office building in a commercial sense is quite a different thing from an office building in a bureaucratic sense. In the first instance the units for rental to each tenant are almost as numerous as the rooms, and the public must have direct access to practically all of them. If one tenant takes ten rooms these may, of course, be grouped or integrated but any such tenant is liable to move out, leaving his space to be occupied by single units. Therefore, this type of office building calls for continuous corridors feeding each and all of the office units.

But an office building for State Institutions, although it takes the same name, is in essence quite a different matter. The floor space on which business is to be transacted must be divided permanently into large groups calling for a number of rooms and subdivisions. The public has a limited intercourse with a part only of each group, while the bulk of intercommunication is between different parts of each group, so that the isolated office fed from a common corridor does not obtain in this building at all.

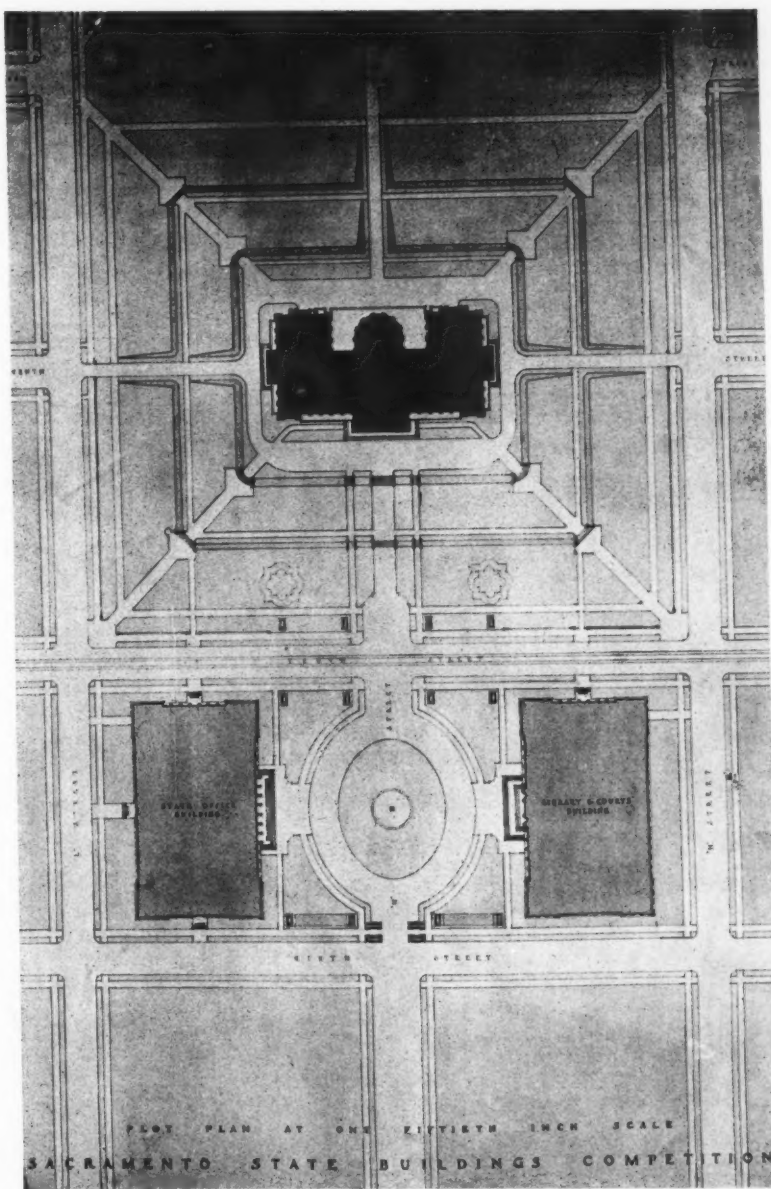
Messrs. Weeks & Day, the architects who won the competition, have solved this problem very ingeniously by bringing the public to a common center with four short but broad aisles leading thence to the center of pavilions enclosing the whole block. By this arrange-

ment, aided with suitable and permanent legends of direction, the public can find its way directly to the main headquarters of the various bureaus. And at the same time these bureaus are not drawn out into long strings of rooms, themselves often split again into long subsidiary corridors parallel with the main corridor. This arrangement makes for privacy and concentration in each bureau, and does away with the long corridors necessary in a building rented to single tenants requiring only a room or so apiece. How well this system is worked out

reveals itself instantly on the plans. On the second floor the four broad hall-ways lead most conveniently to the following correlated groups: the first leads to the Department of Weights and Measures and the Reclamation Board; the second, to the right, leads to the Social Insurance, Labor Statistics and Industrial Welfare Departments; the third leads to the Fish and Game, State Dairy and Market Commissions; the fourth to the Department of Forestry, Viticulture and Horticulture. On the third floor the same logical arrangement obtains. The first hallway leads to the Civil Service Commission; the second to the State Board of Health; the third to the Dental, Veterinary and Lunacy Commissions; and the fourth to the Department of Public Instruction and State Board of Education. Similarly the fourth floor's quartet of radiating halls leads first to the Adjutant General, second to the Highway Commission's Head-

quarters, third to the Division Office of the same and fourth to the Department of Corporations and the Water Commission. The fifth floor, away from the noise and with the maximum of light, is given over wholly to Architecture, Engineering and Surveying.

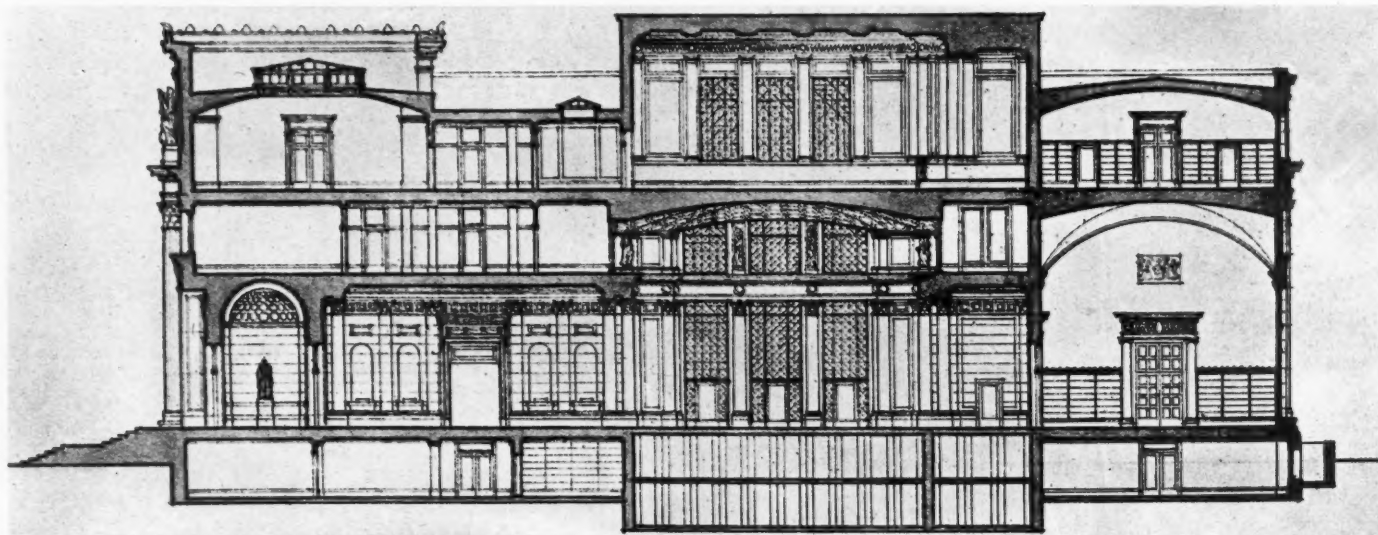
The central Lobby with its eight elevators suggests a monumental treatment in section but as floor space at each story is the essence of the arrangement we feel that this feature is rather overdone on plan. Moreover



SACRAMENTO STATE BUILDINGS COMPETITION

Plot Plan

Bliss & Faville, Architects



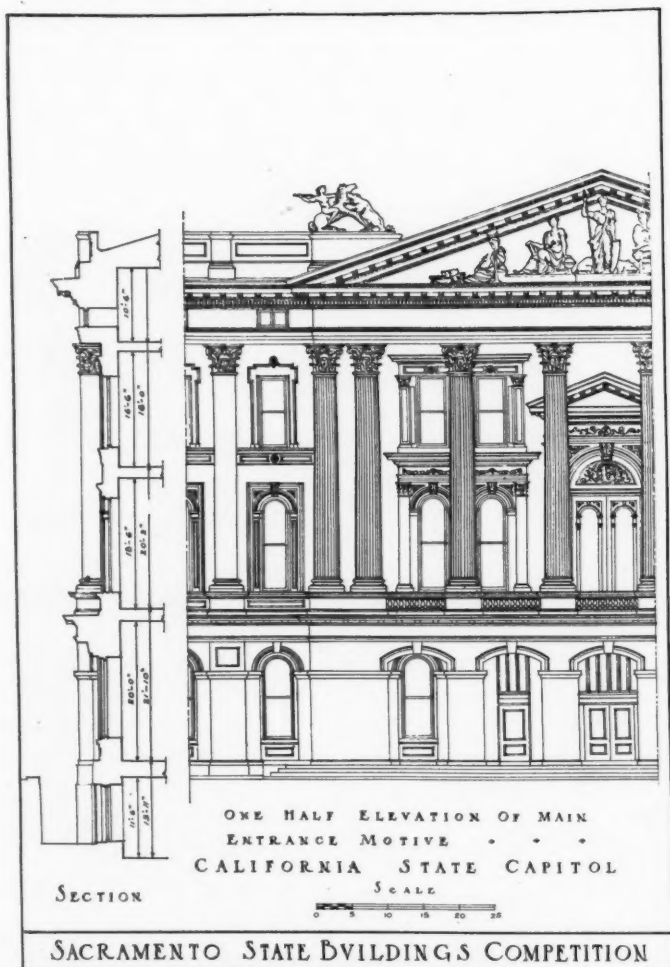
SECTION OF LIBRARY AND COURTS BUILDING

BLISS & FAVILLE, Architects

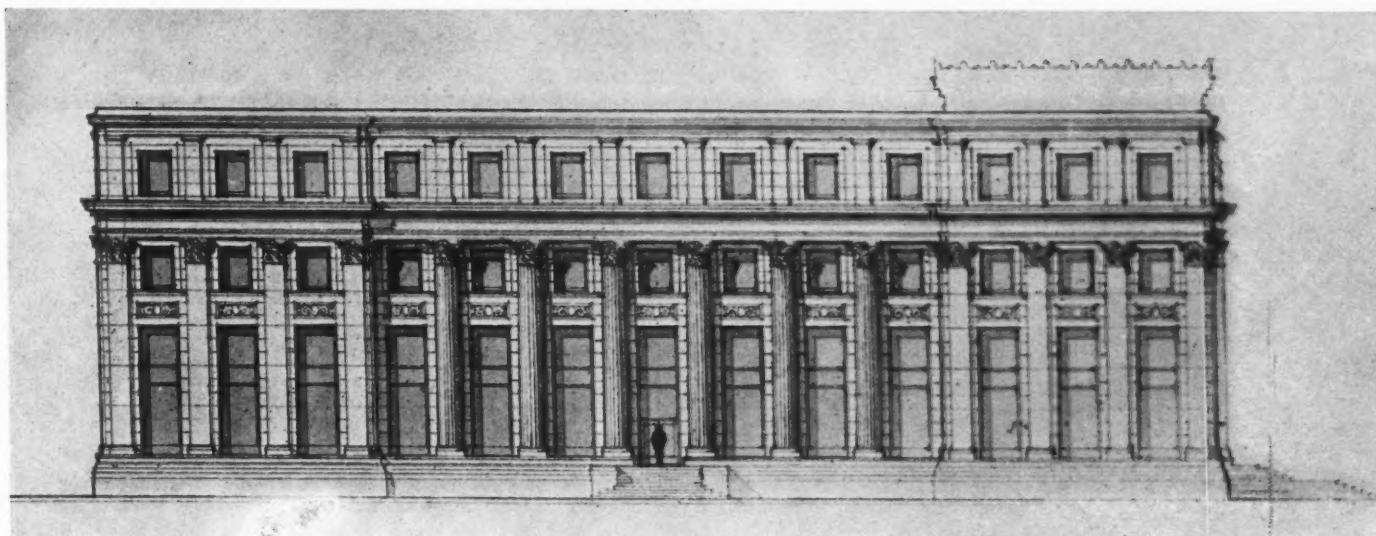
absolute cruciform symmetry about a central point seems hardly necessary. Seeing that the main entrance lobby is rather dark, it might be profitable to bring the back walls of the front pavilion one space forward so as to light this entrance direct from the two nearest inner

courts, which in the process would be elongated. Some space on all floors would be lost, but as it is mostly unassigned or excess space it probably could be spared; while three elevators at each side where the first two pairs are now shown might be more convenient than the four opposite pairs as shown.

The Library and Courts building is compactly planned and built symmetrically upon a central rectangle; the kernel, as it were, of the whole composition. This serves as the Assembly Room on the ground floor. Above this its walls enclose the Charging room of the Library through two full stories. Above, this basilica-like unit develops into a true basilica and becomes a court of Justice. This is very cleverly worked out, although one feels that the unit should be somewhat elongated, either actually or in effect. The large side windows of the charging room whose round heads penetrate the barrel vaulting appear as rather redundant features. Their omission would give better composition to the room. The loss of light might be made up by squaring the ceiling and inserting clerestory lights. But this is not necessary. And while on the subject of light for a room buried in a nest of pavilions it might be pointed out that mathematically speaking no two parallel vertical planes can both escape sunlight (except for a moment) in no matter what position they may stand. Now seeing that reflected sunlight is more effective and more beautiful than direct sunlight, it is quite possible to make these light wells which envelop the core of this building into veritable pockets of luminosity by lining them with glazed cream tile instead of using those sombre mud colored bricks that our architects seem to think so aesthetic. And if, when this is done, the fire walls of all inner courts were cut down to the gutters and if all windows opening into decorated rooms were glazed with translucent instead of transparent glass, we should find several problems of light and decoration solved at one stroke. Why our designers should lavish their efforts of modelling and polychrome at enormous pains and expense on the walls and ceilings of a fine chamber and leave each window opening to envisage a view of plain bricks and gutter spouts, etc., has



CALIFORNIA STATE CAPITOL, SACRAMENTO
Half Elevation of Entrance Motive



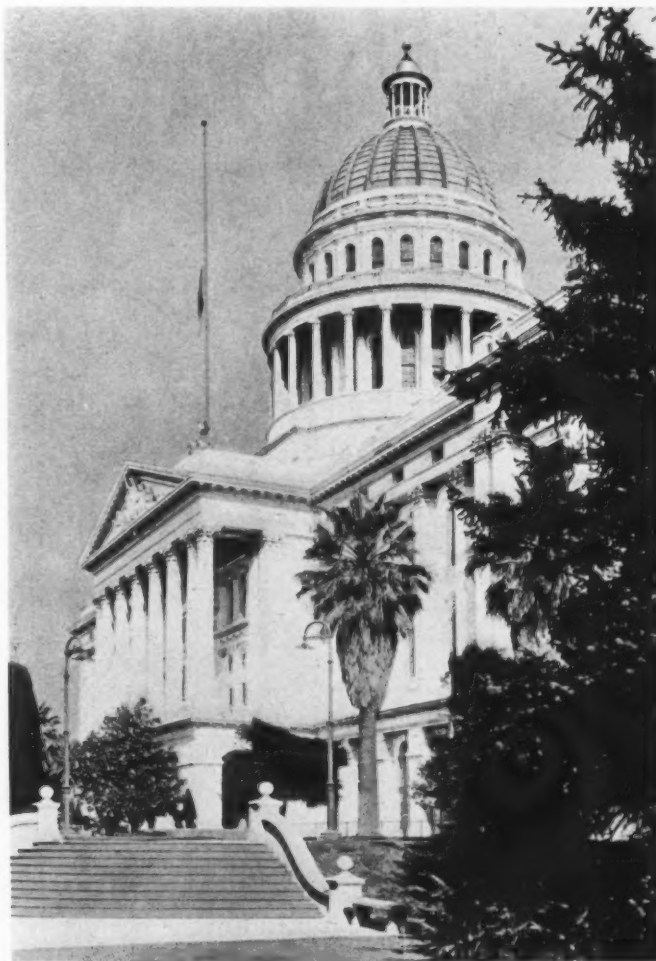
END ELEVATION OF LIBRARY AND COURTS BUILDING

BLISS & FAVILLE, Architects

always been a puzzle. The practice still continues even in our most important buildings.

Regarding the exterior design, these buildings are at once, by implication at least, very much more ambitious than any of the others submitted; and yet in their actual architectural lines they are the least ambitious of them. The light-hearted way in which we see here indicated a pair of grandiose and heroic sculptured pediments rather fills us with alarm. We could understand it, even expect it in a City Hall scheme for some growing town in Oklahoma, and it might be managed on a national capitol or an international monument. These pediments are at least one hundred feet wide; the central figures would be colossal, not less than 20 feet high when standing; and to complete two adequate groups we should need dozens of heroic figures to the same cyclopean scale. Assuming that the sculptural resources of the country can rise to the occasion and that there is money enough to pay for so ambitious a task, we should certainly demand that the rest of the facade be of a magnificence sufficient to support this crowning glory. The design shows no such intention. Adequately to carry such a pediment the columns should stand forth freely and should rise grandly from the ground. But why a pediment at all? A pediment is the gable end of a long roof, longer at least than it is wide else the ridge would straddle the span in the other direction. This pediment, if extended back as a roof, would cover little else than voids, stacks and light wells. It seems, therefore, singularly out of place and quite illogical. It is true there is a pediment on the Capitol, but this quite correctly indicates the roof of a great nave intersecting the base of the dome. But admitting that a pediment may be used as mere ornament on the historical ground that the useful features of one age become the ornamental ones of the next, even then we feel very sincerely that these enormous ones are unwieldy, overpowering and impossible as they now stand. They might be retained in reduced form by omitting the outer columns, the whole order might be stilted, or the pediment made to rise in the center over five or seven bays only, the ends terminating in pylons. No doubt this feature will be

carefully recast, and no doubt the whole exterior design will eventually take on new dignity and refinement after due study, commensurate with the undoubted excellence and finish of the plans and the sections.

CALIFORNIA STATE CAPITOL, SACRAMENTO
West or Main Front

More About Competitions

By Charles Sumner, S. F. S. A.

WHY, of all superfluous things, should one attempt to say anything more about competitions? Not only would the subject seem to be worn threadbare, but it seems most trifling while the great bloody competition between the forces of light and darkness is going on. Even as concerns our normal, peaceful practice it might seem barren as well. For, naturally, as the average architect almost never becomes a winner, the competition can have but a secondary place in his scheme of things. Still less may the inveterate dabbler in competitions (and many of us are just that), the money-minded slacker, the vain but miscalculating plunger, or even at times the real genius, reasonably expect his fond hopes to materialize in substantial recognition or reward. The competition is for the great majority of us purely a self-delusion and a snare—a pleasurable but brief and expensive excursion to an architectural fool's paradise with a soothing school-made atmosphere and appropriately deceitful entourage rendered with shades and shadows in India-ink wash. So it might seem excusable, even if unprofitable, to grapple the subject in a dour vein and vent disgruntled feeling without end upon the pitiful objects of scorn who usually misconduct such enterprises.

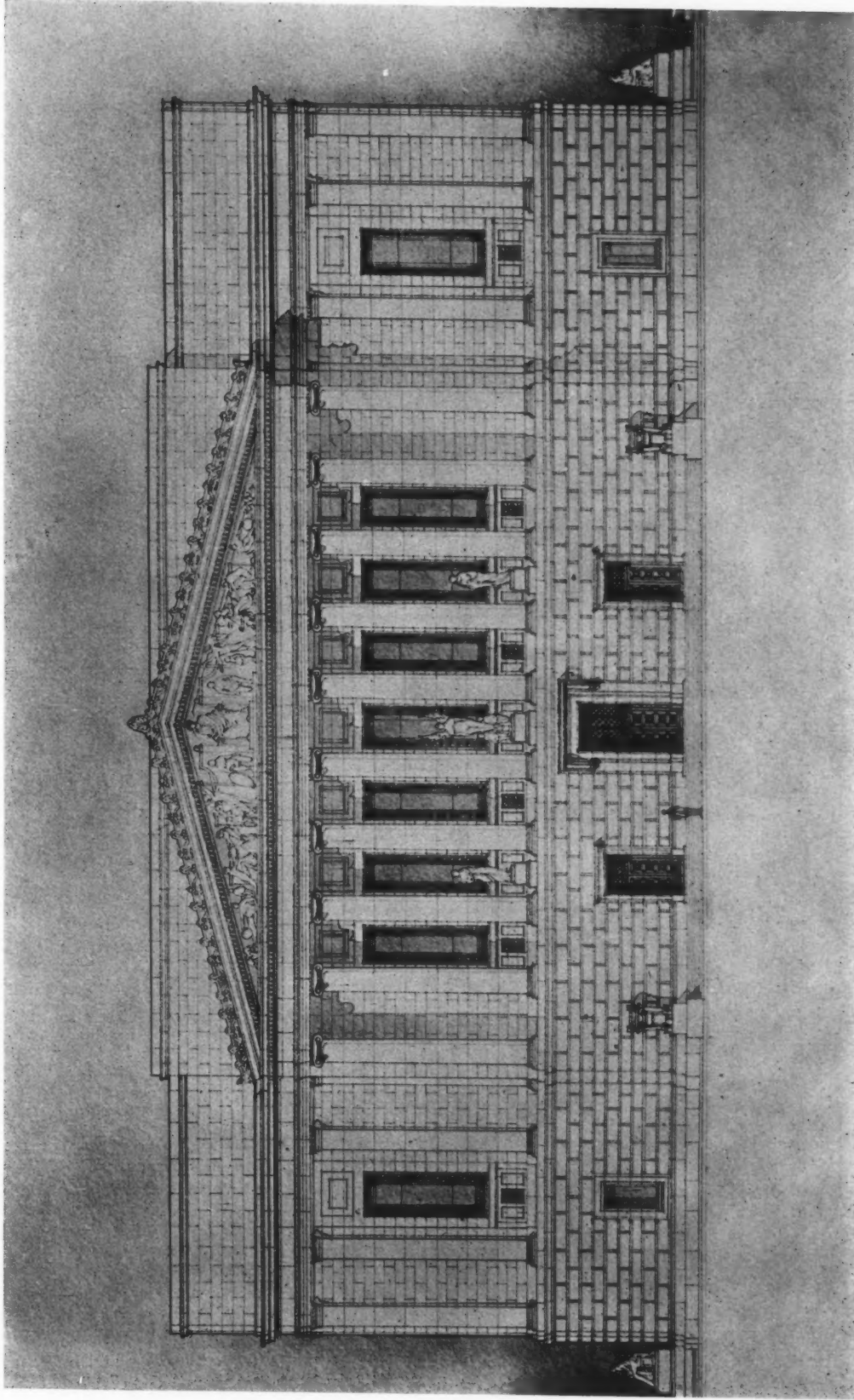
But that is precisely what I cannot do. For, quite aside from the circumstance that I am one of those unfortunate persons who are utterly, incurably and almost helplessly fascinated whenever a good competition is in sight, I believe that the architectural competition has fully justified itself, in spite of its seeming futility; that, as an instrument, it has been greatly elevated in dignity and usefulness (for which we may thank the American Institute of Architects); and that the advisors and conductors of most of our competitions are more to be commended for what they have achieved than censured for what they have failed to accomplish. Even in war time the competition, provided the object be worthy, may be part of our inglorious home job of "carrying on." On the other hand I am confident that the conduct of competitions may still be vastly improved, in spite of all the limitations necessarily involved and all the frailties and shortcomings of human nature which seem to block the way. Not to be crabbedly critical, therefore, but to give some slight impulse to further improvement, is the motive for the little I shall say.

While the relation of the competition to progress in our art itself is a matter open to discussion, I think we can agree that the competition has indeed justified itself on the whole, and that it has been of distinct service both to the public and to the profession; that is, of course, when judiciously conceived, and in its legitimate place. Ordinarily there is no excuse for competition where private interests are paramount. Here the personal reaction alone precludes such a method of selection, quite aside from other considerations. This is also largely the case with corporate enterprises, especially when control is closely held and personally centered; although competition has occasionally been resorted to by corporate interests to their undoubted advantage. But for public work, which should be at once the most splendidly con-

ceived and the most impartially assigned, work for which and in which we are all virtual sponsors and shareholders, selection through competition alone would seem to accord with our ideas of democratic government. An architectural competition, if properly managed, is the very essence of genuine civil service, with the added feature that all the papers will be laid on the table and the likelihood that someone, at last, will rather promptly get a "job." I do not undertake to defend the economy of the method, for democracy as we know it is by no means economical or efficient. Nor do I forget that high professional distinction and unselfish public service will sometimes compel official recognition in the direct assignment of important commissions. Governments, as well as individuals, can be properly decent and appreciative. And we cannot blink the fact that base and selfish motives may find almost as free an outlet in a misconducted competition as in the most outrageous "political" appointment. We need not pause to condemn such motives, nor need we turn aside to dissect the dual purpose of the public competition and draw the logical conclusions. It is the outcome rather than the application of competitive method which concerns us now; and no one who has followed American public competitions in the past can deny that they have brought forth the most splendid, as well as oftentimes the most interesting and unexpected results. Their excessively conservative influence in fixing architectural style, which some thoughtful students deplore, seems more than offset by the infusion and spread of original ideas which they have promoted.

So the public, as well as the successful competitor, does indeed come out ahead. For the average architect's part in the game, too, there is something to be said, little as he seems to get out of it. His self-deception usually turns rather quickly to healthy if not happy self-revelation. Tumbled from his fool's paradise, his feet are apt to be all the more firmly planted when he gets back to earth again. He will be, in fact, better grounded in his art; for, wretched and unworthy of himself as his effort may have turned out, he will have been lifted from the sordid rut for the time being to a higher and finer point of vantage. And who among us would willingly forego the stimulus of the big problem, with its call for intense mental exercise, for sober reasoning combined with almost hilarious imaginative creation; the joys of cooperation; the re-awakened spirit of office loyalty and pride; even the element of uncertainty involved, often so pitifully slight—the sporting chance! Let graybeards decry competitions as they will; the wider public will still gain, and these foolish, intangible things will probably always compensate even the unsuccessful competitor for the wastes and abuses which he seems compelled to suffer.

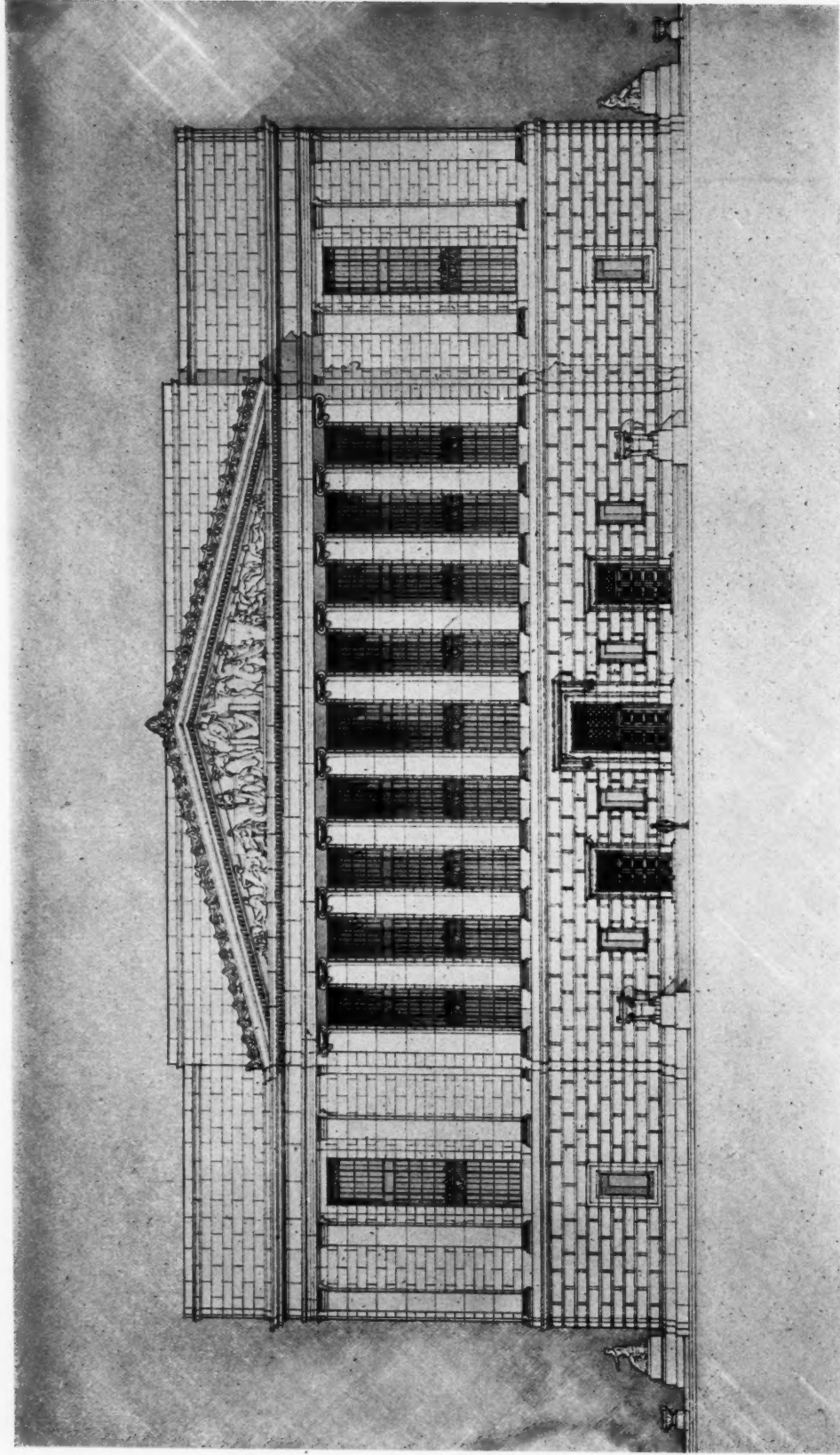
For, as every competitor realizes, the waste and lost motion in the average competition and the slightness of the losers' compensation make it an inordinately, almost a criminally expensive game; one which, taken collectively, is a shining example of the dissipation of human energy. The hopeful point is, that much of the waste and many of the deficiencies of our competition practice



SACRAMENTO STATE BUILDINGS COMPETITION
(Winning Design)

Front Elevation of Library and Courts Building

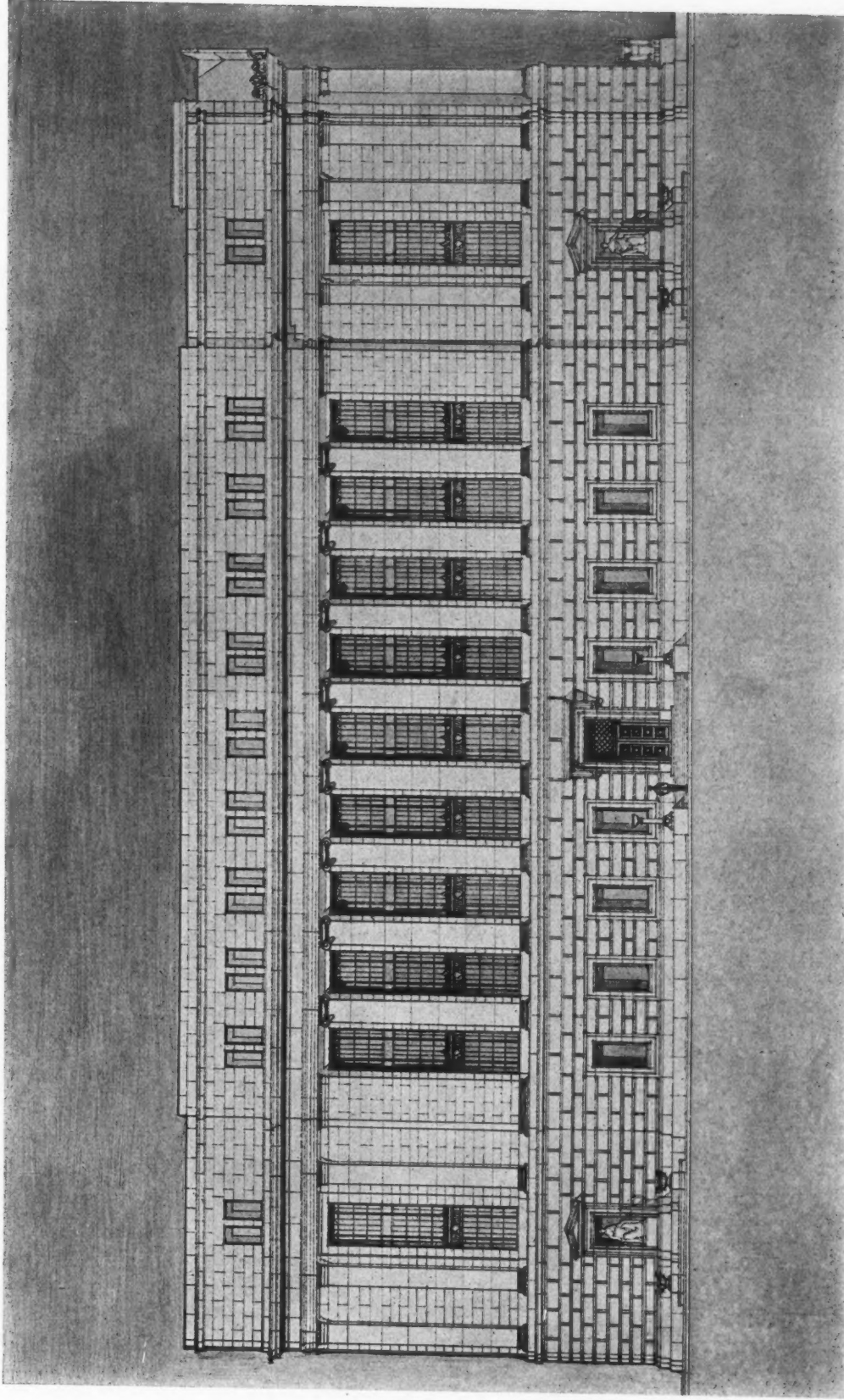
Weeks & Day, Architects



Sacramento State Buildings Competition

FRONT ELEVATION OFFICE BUILDING
(Winning Design)

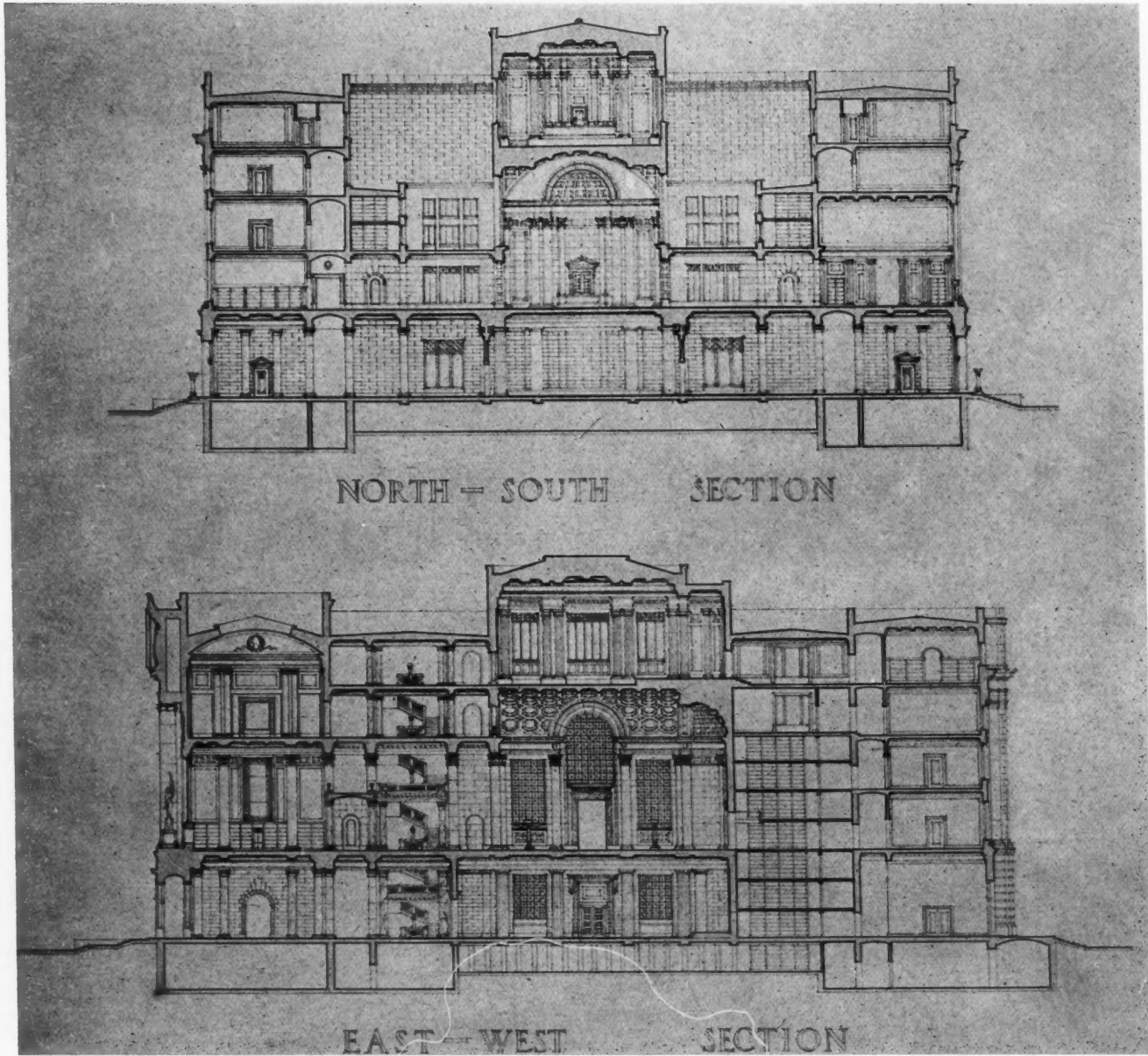
WEEKS & DAY, Architects



SACRAMENTO STATE BUILDINGS COMPETITION
(Winning Design)

Side Elevation of Office Building

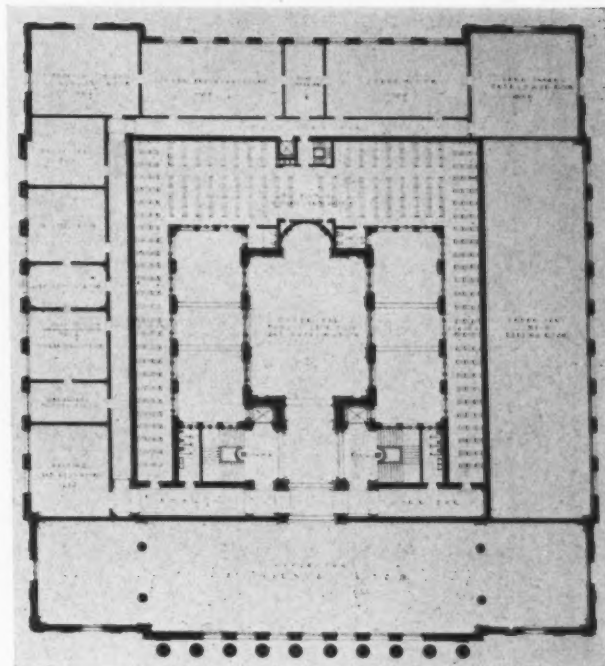
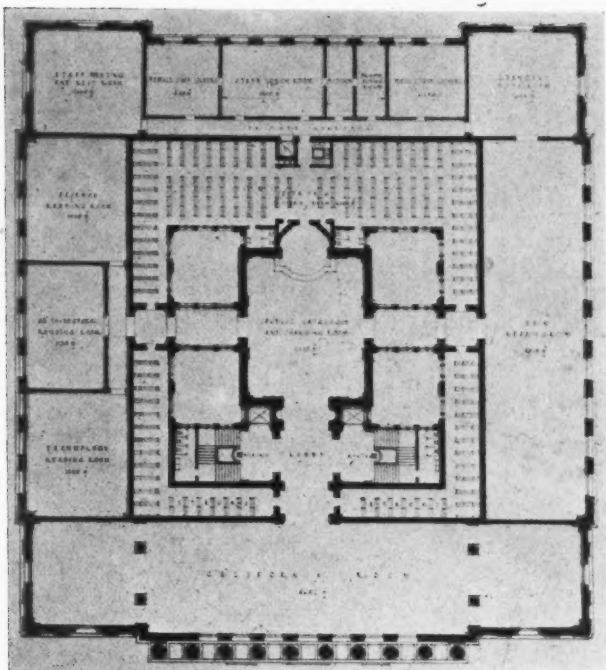
Weeks & Day, Architects



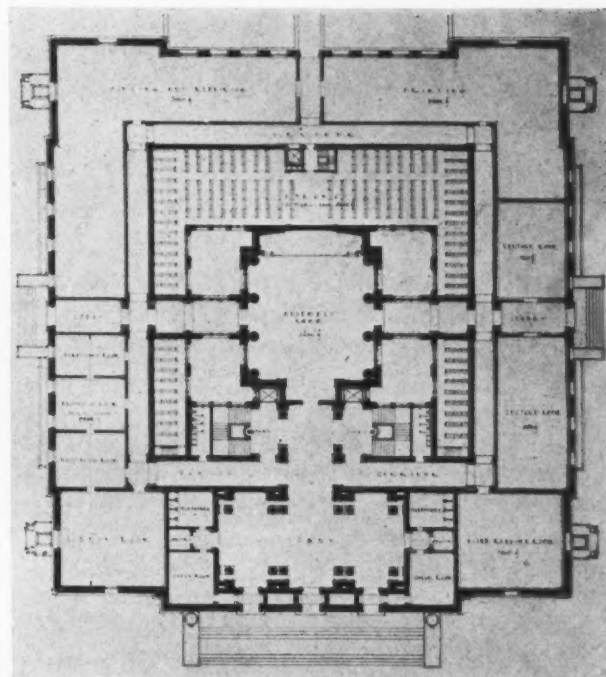
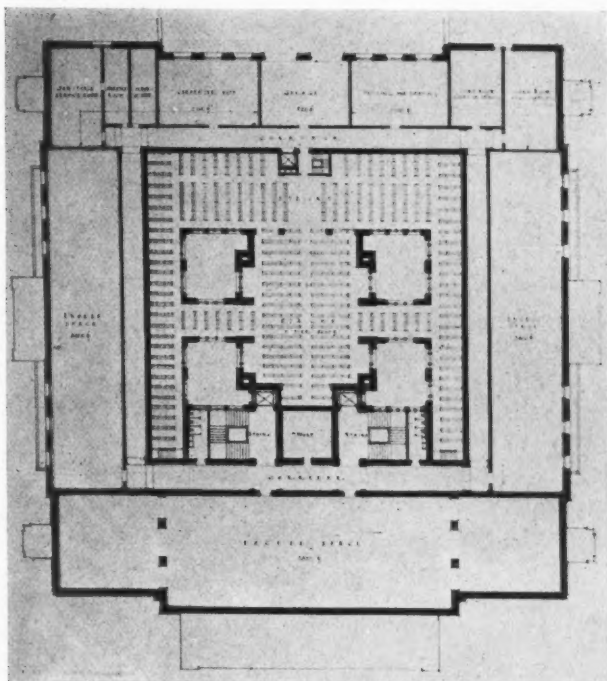
Sections of Library and Courts Building

SACRAMENTO STATE BUILDINGS COMPETITION
(Winning Design)

Weeks & Day, Architects

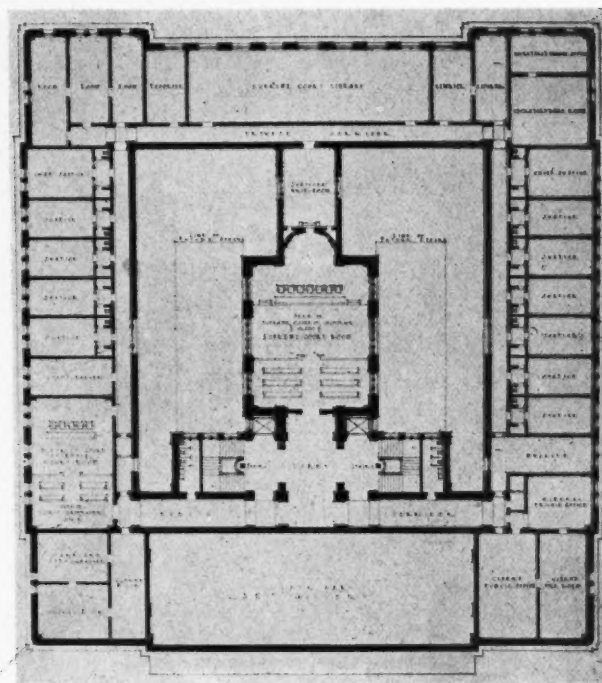
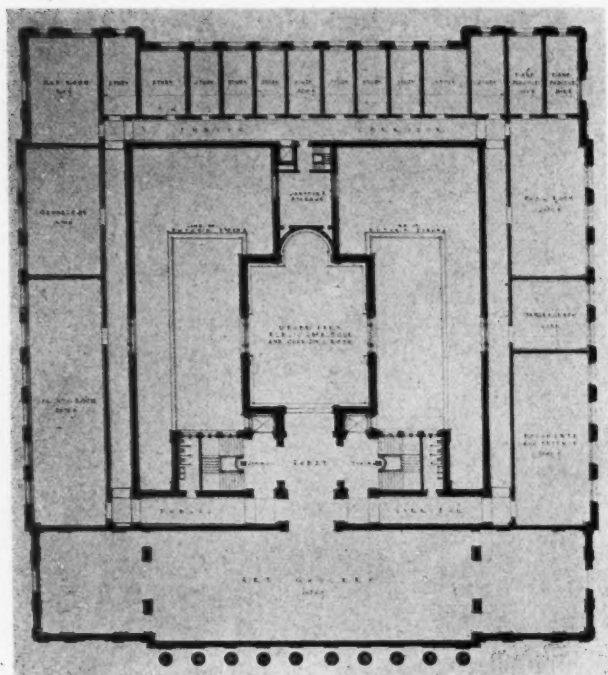


Second Floor and Second Floor Mezzanine Plans of Library and Courts Building

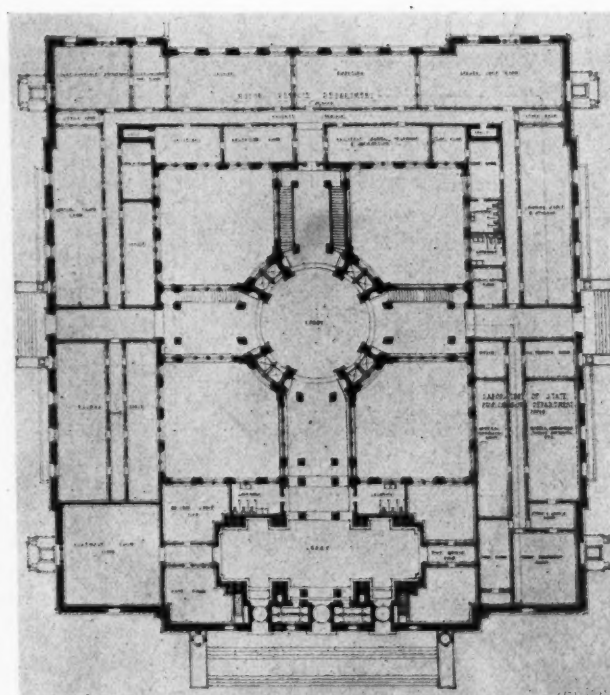
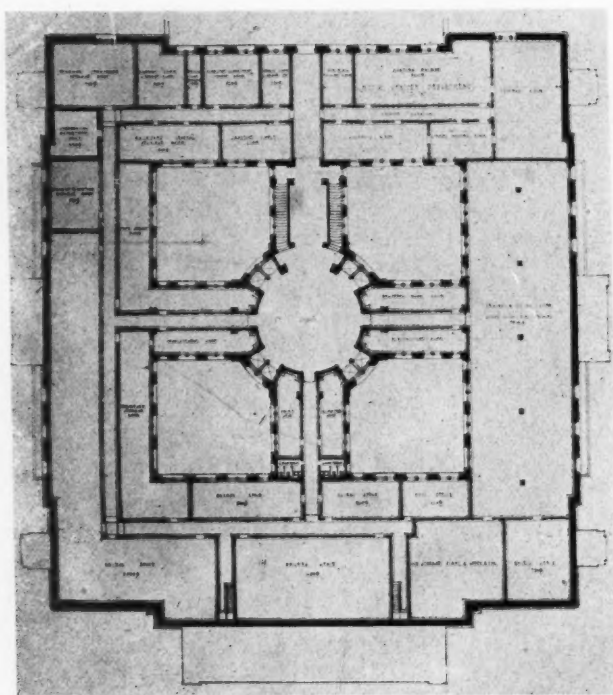


SACRAMENTO STATE BUILDINGS COMPETITION
Basement and First Floor Plans of Library and Courts Building (Winning Design)

Weeks & Day, Architects

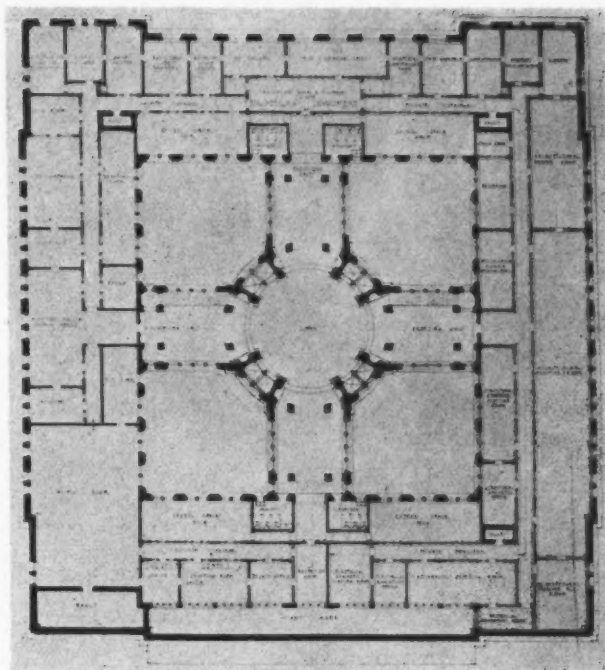
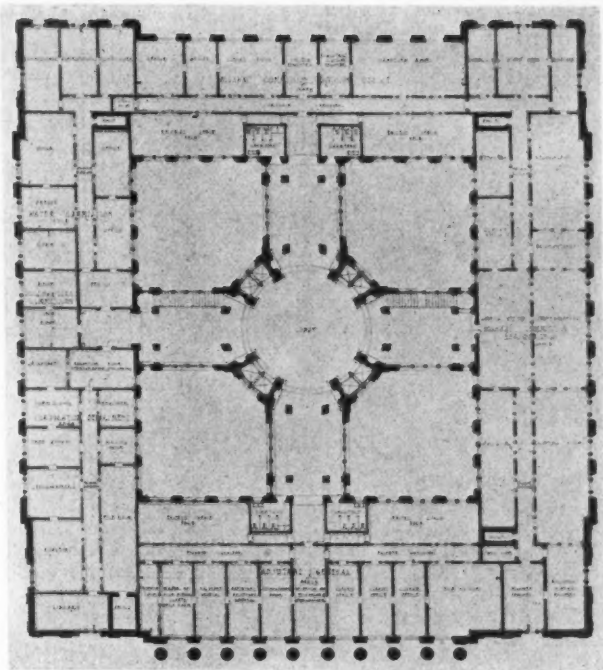


THIRD AND FOURTH FLOOR PLANS OF LIBRARY AND COURTS BUILDING

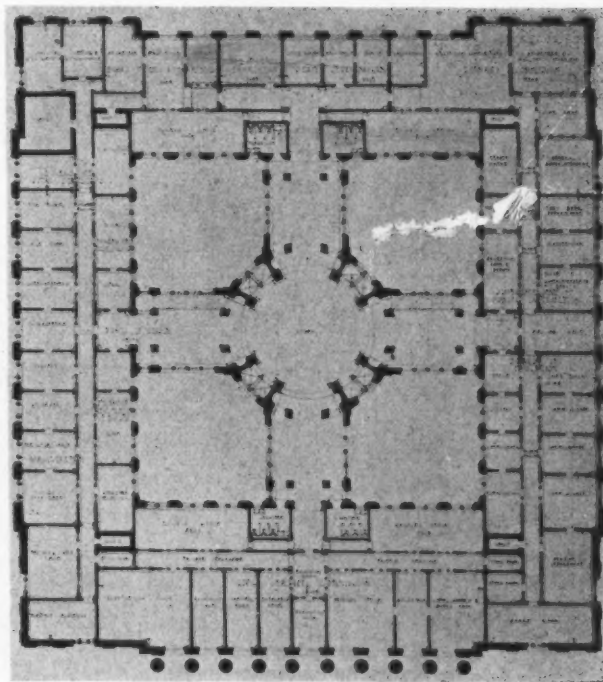
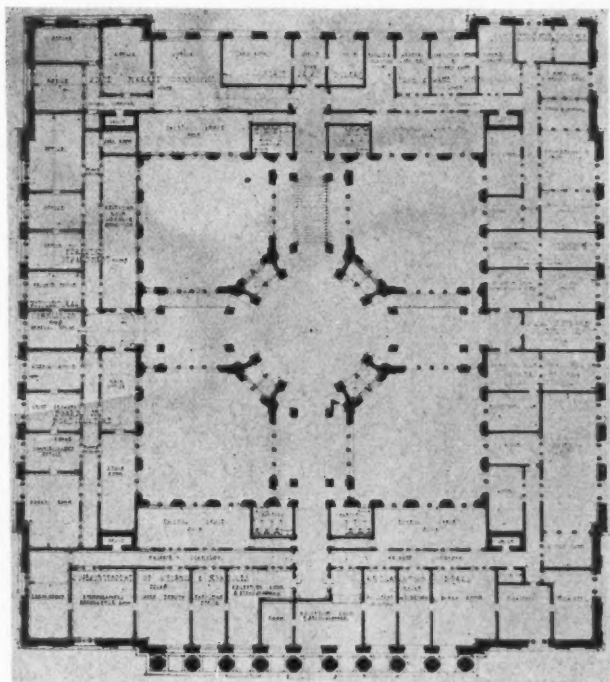


SACRAMENTO STATE BUILDINGS COMPETITION
Basement and First Floor Plans of Office Building (Winning Design)

Weeks & Day, Architects

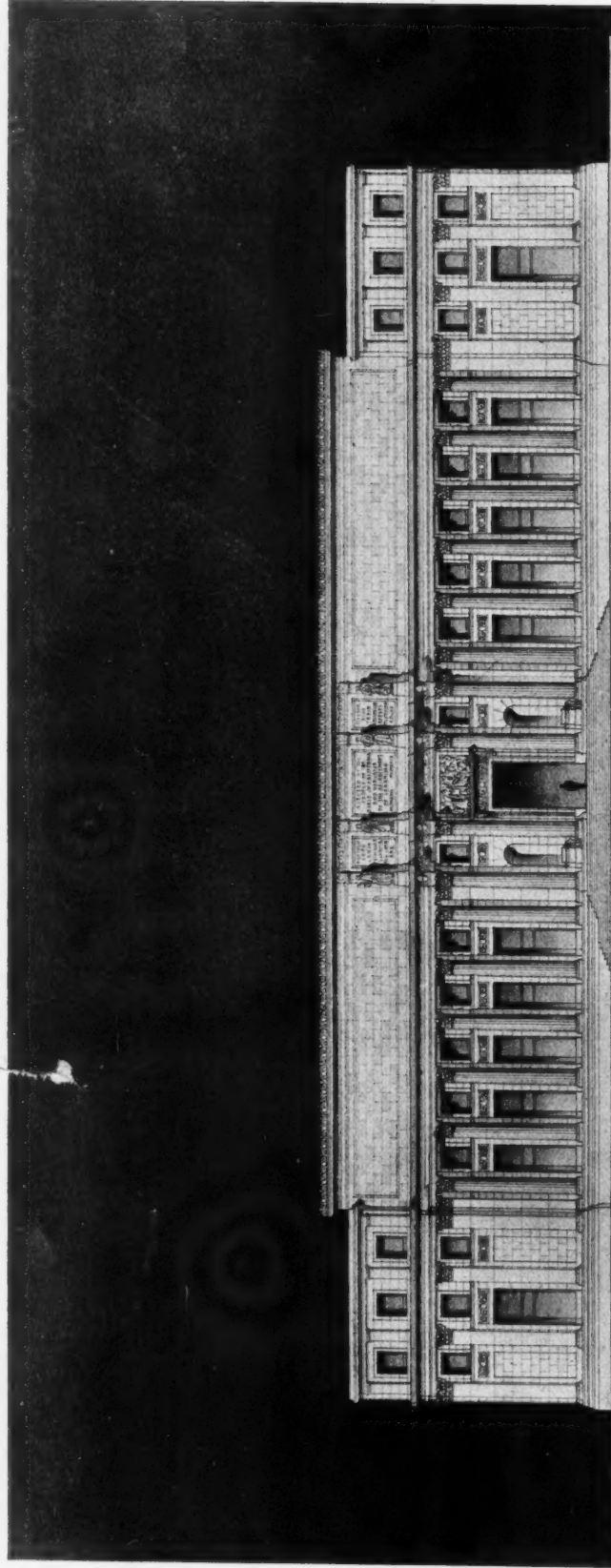


FOURTH AND FIFTH FLOOR PLANS OF OFFICE BUILDING



SACRAMENTO STATE BUILDINGS COMPETITION
Second and Third Floor Plans of Office Building
(Winning Design)

Weeks & Day, Architects

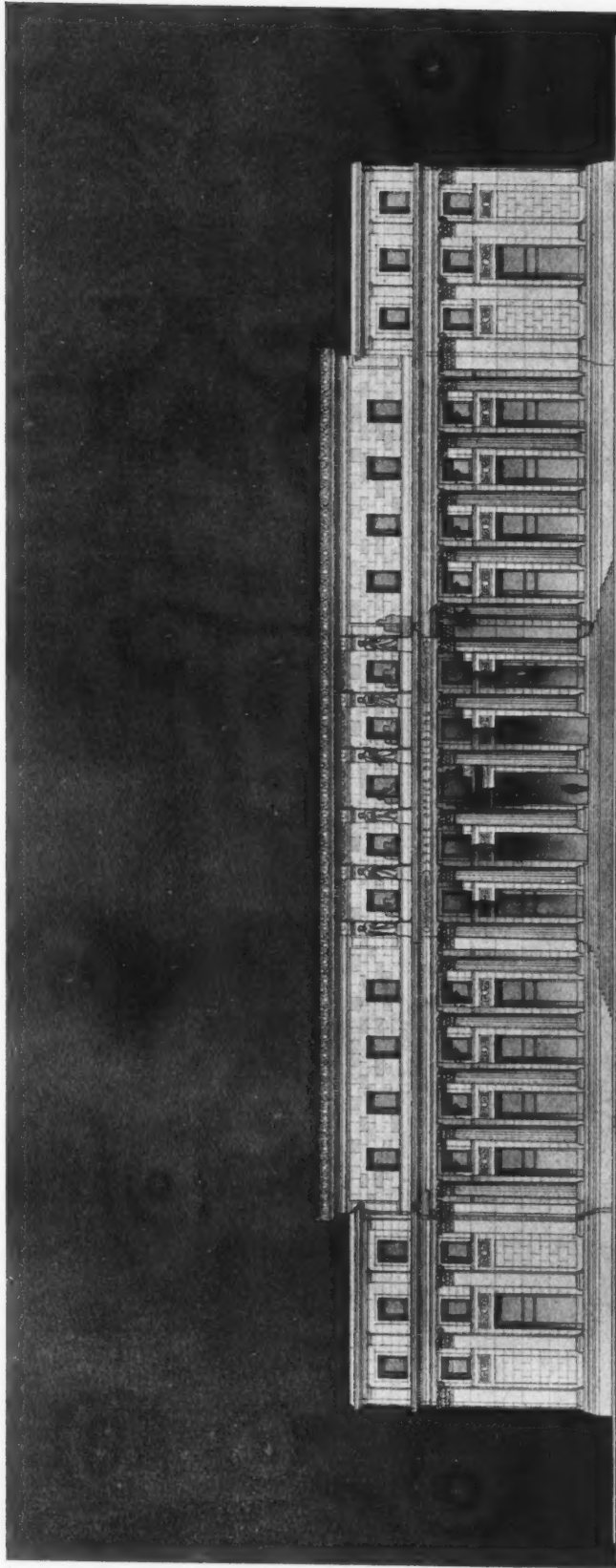


FRONT ELEVATION AT ONE SIXTEENTH INCH SCALE
LIBRARY AND COURTS BUILDING
SACRAMENTO STATE BUILDINGS COMPETITION

SACRAMENTO STATE BUILDINGS COMPETITION

Front Elevation of Library and Courts Building

Bliss & Faville, Architects

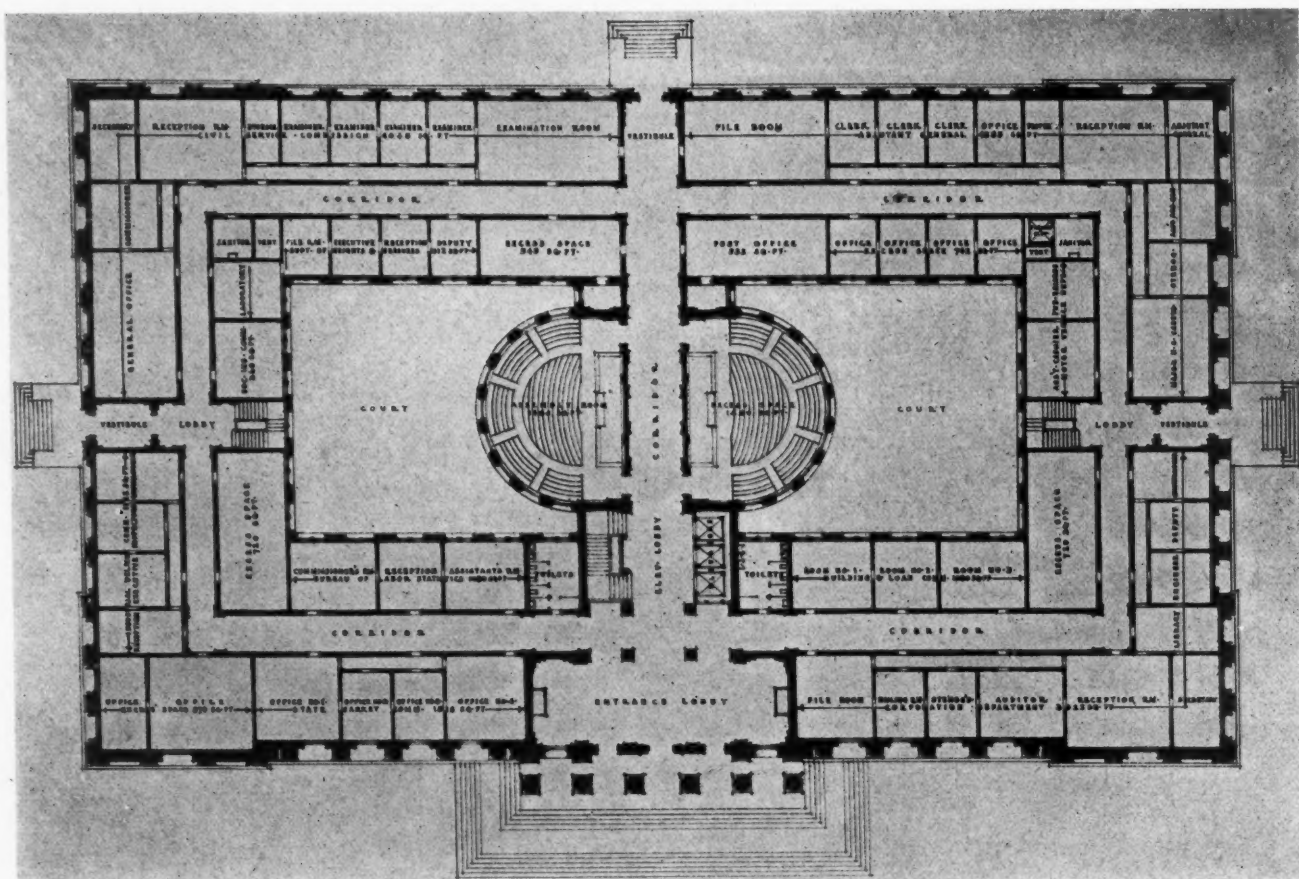


FRONT ELEVATION AT ONE SIXTEENTH INCH SCALE
OFFICE BUILDING
SACRAMENTO STATE BUILDINGS COMPETITION

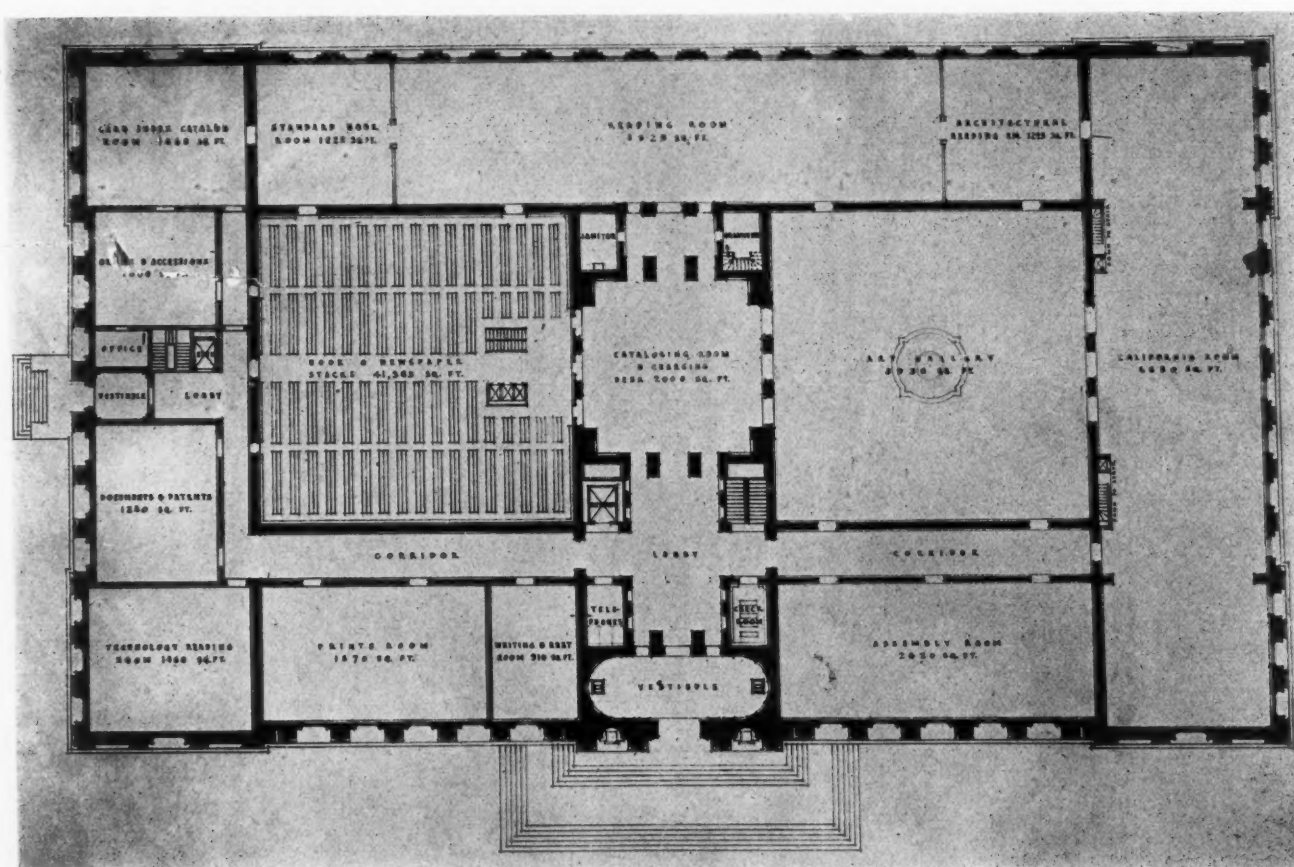
SACRAMENTO STATE BUILDINGS COMPETITION

Front Elevation of Office Building

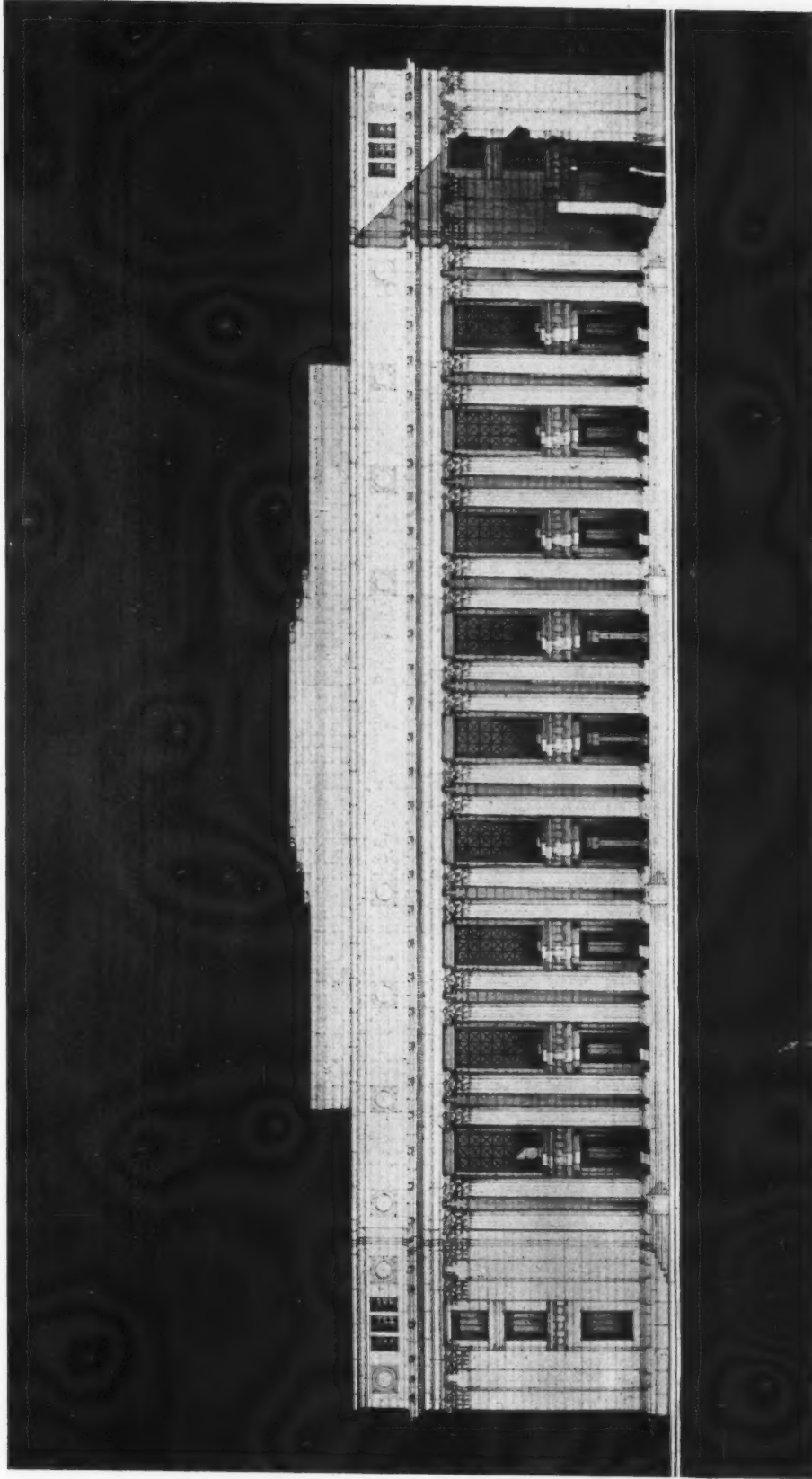
Bliss & Faville, Architects



FIRST FLOOR PLAN OF OFFICE BUILDING


 SACRAMENTO STATE BUILDINGS COMPETITION
 First Floor Plan of Library and Courts Building

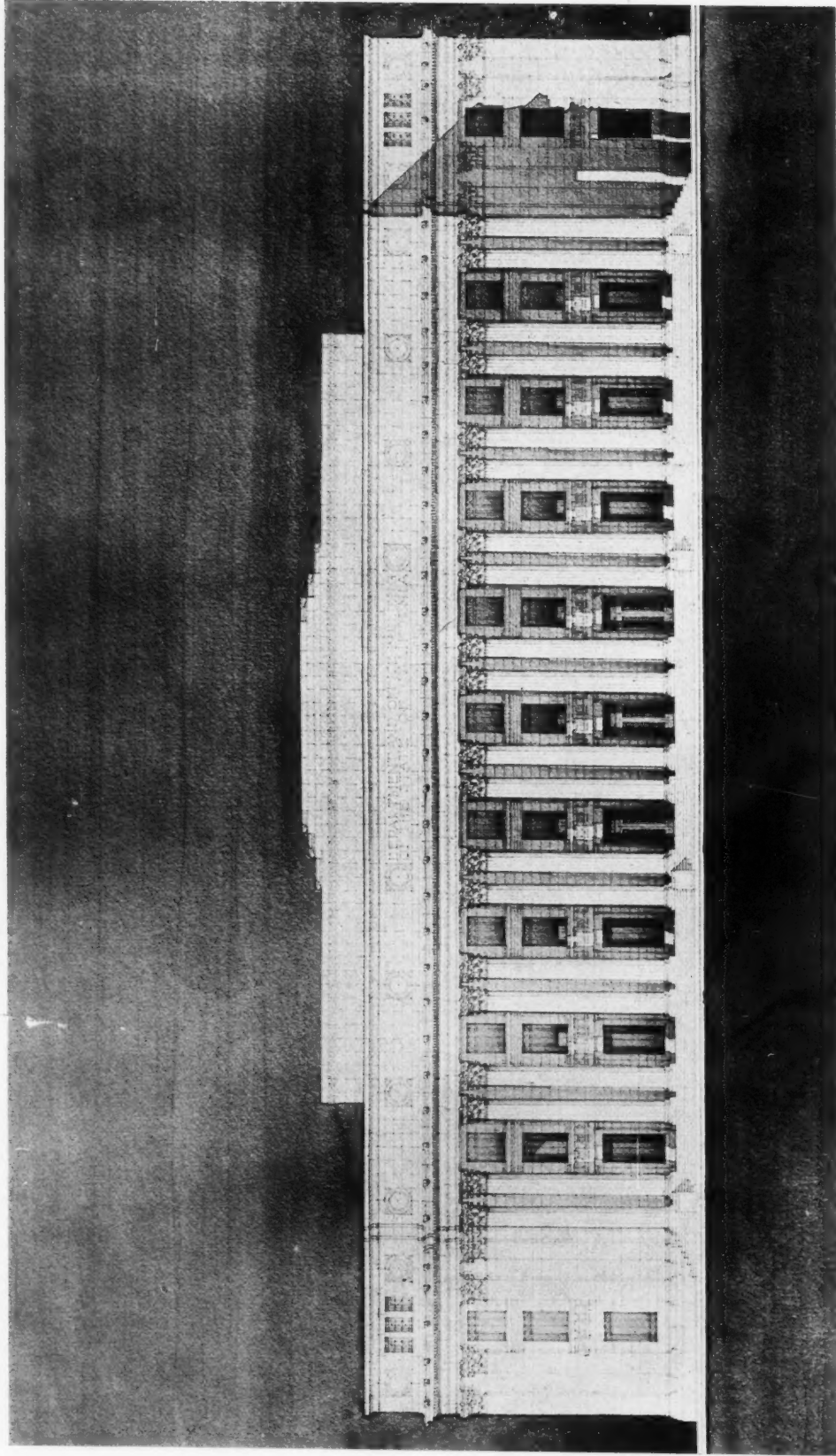
Bliss & Faville, Architects



Main Elevation of Library and Courts Building

SACRAMENTO STATE BUILDINGS COMPETITION

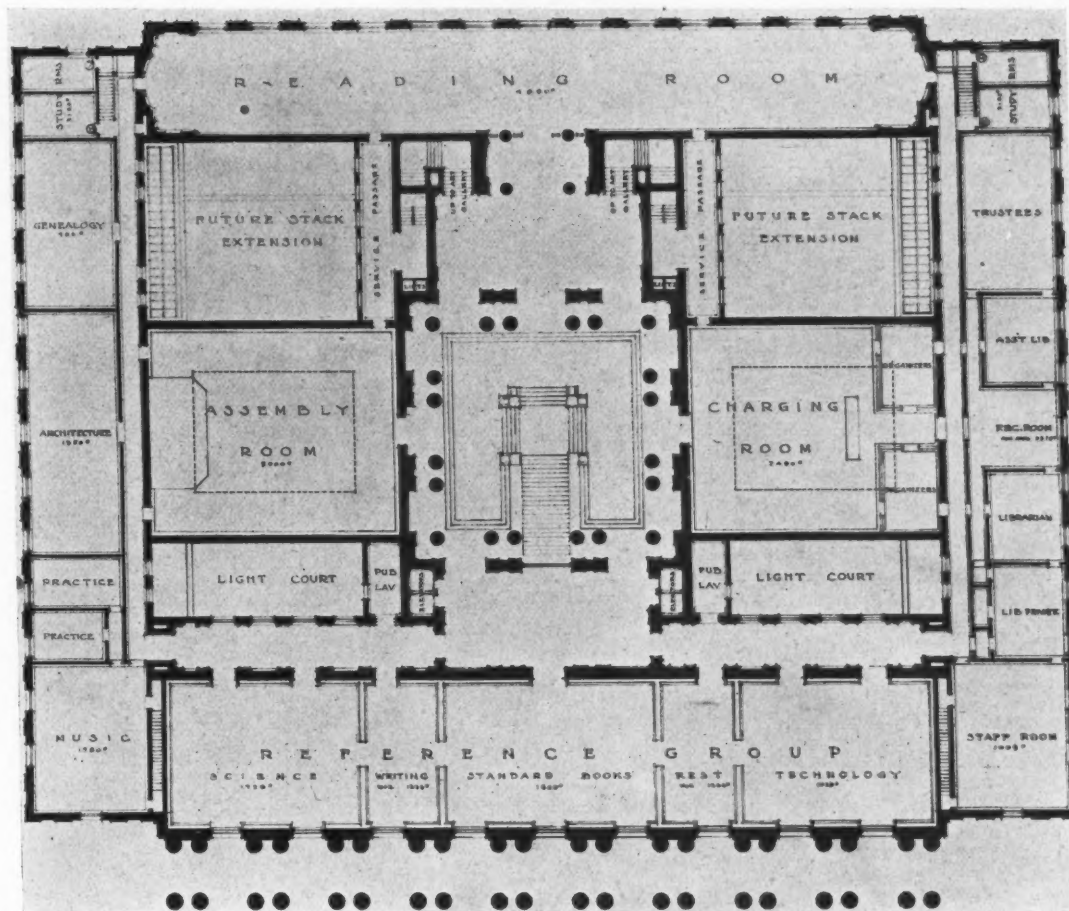
Ward & Blohme, Architects



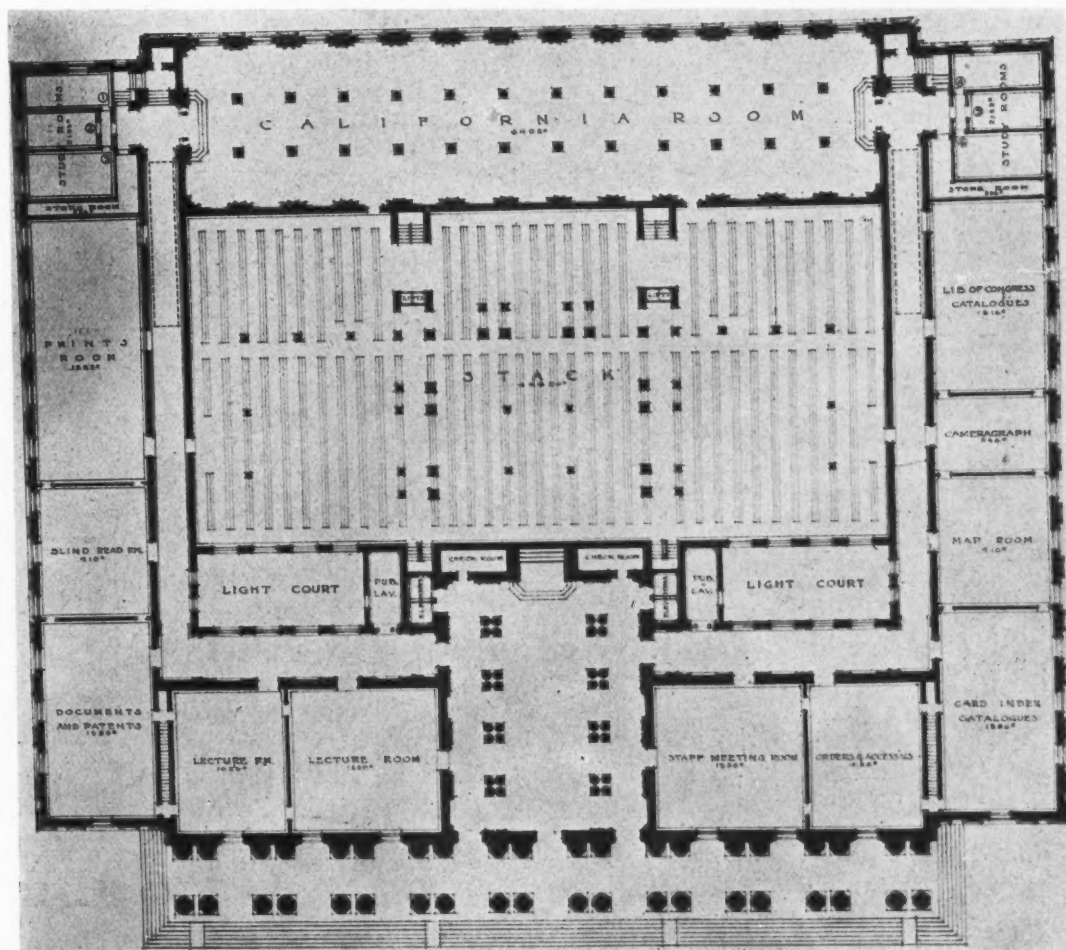
SACRAMENTO STATE BUILDINGS COMPETITION

Main Elevation of Office Building

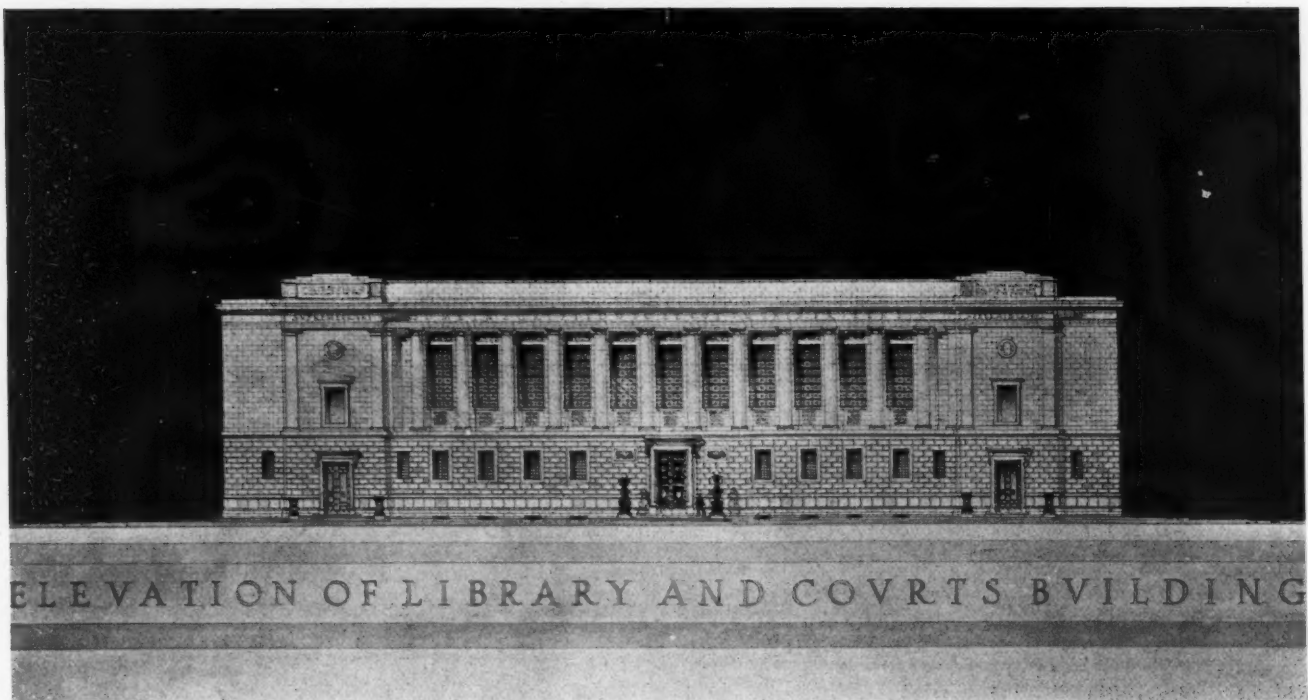
Ward & Blohme, Architects



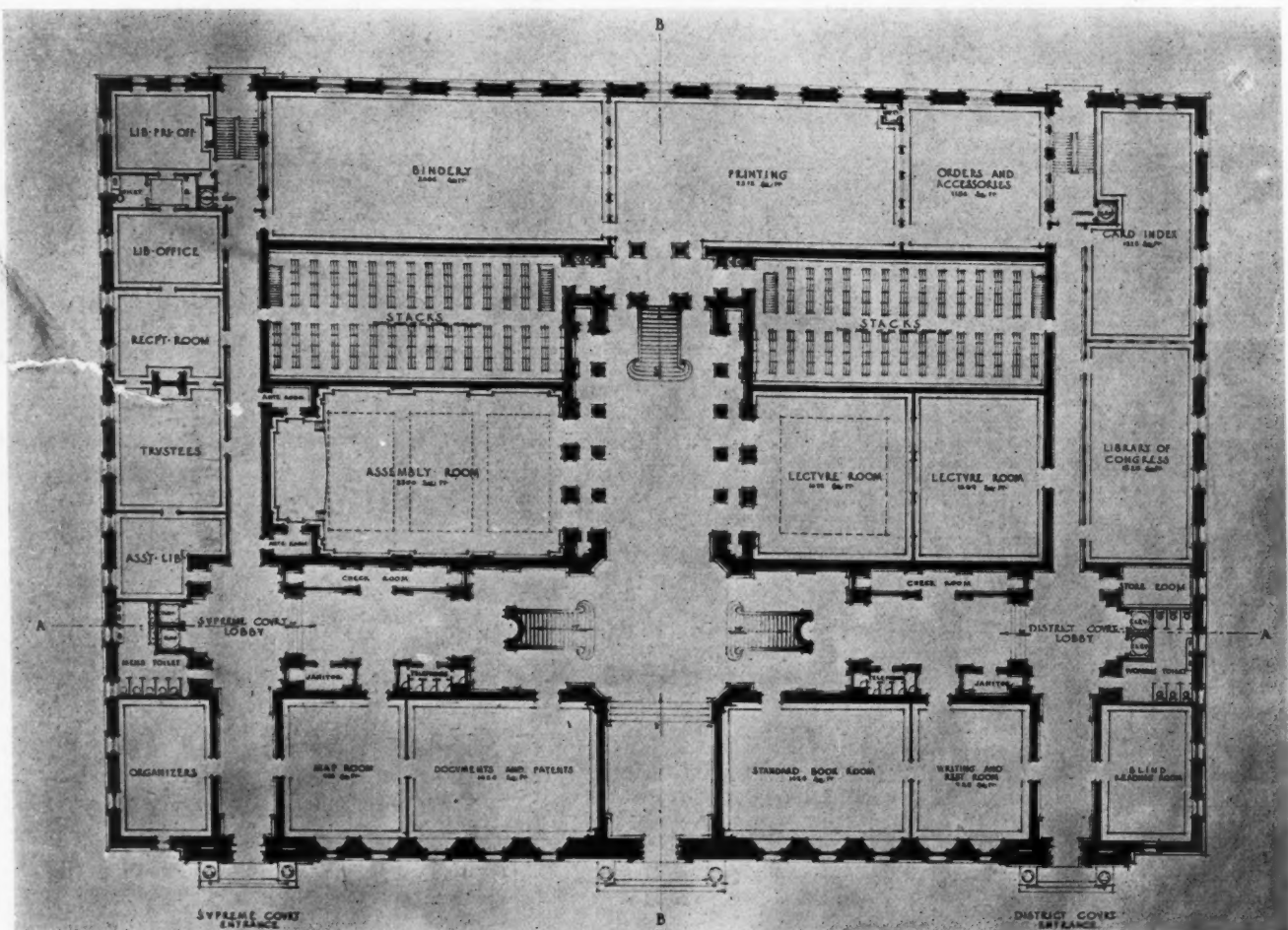
Second Floor Plan Library and Courts Building

SACRAMENTO STATE BUILDINGS COMPETITION
First Floor Plan of Library and Courts Building

Ward & Blohme, Architects



MAIN ELEVATION OF LIBRARY AND COURTS BUILDING

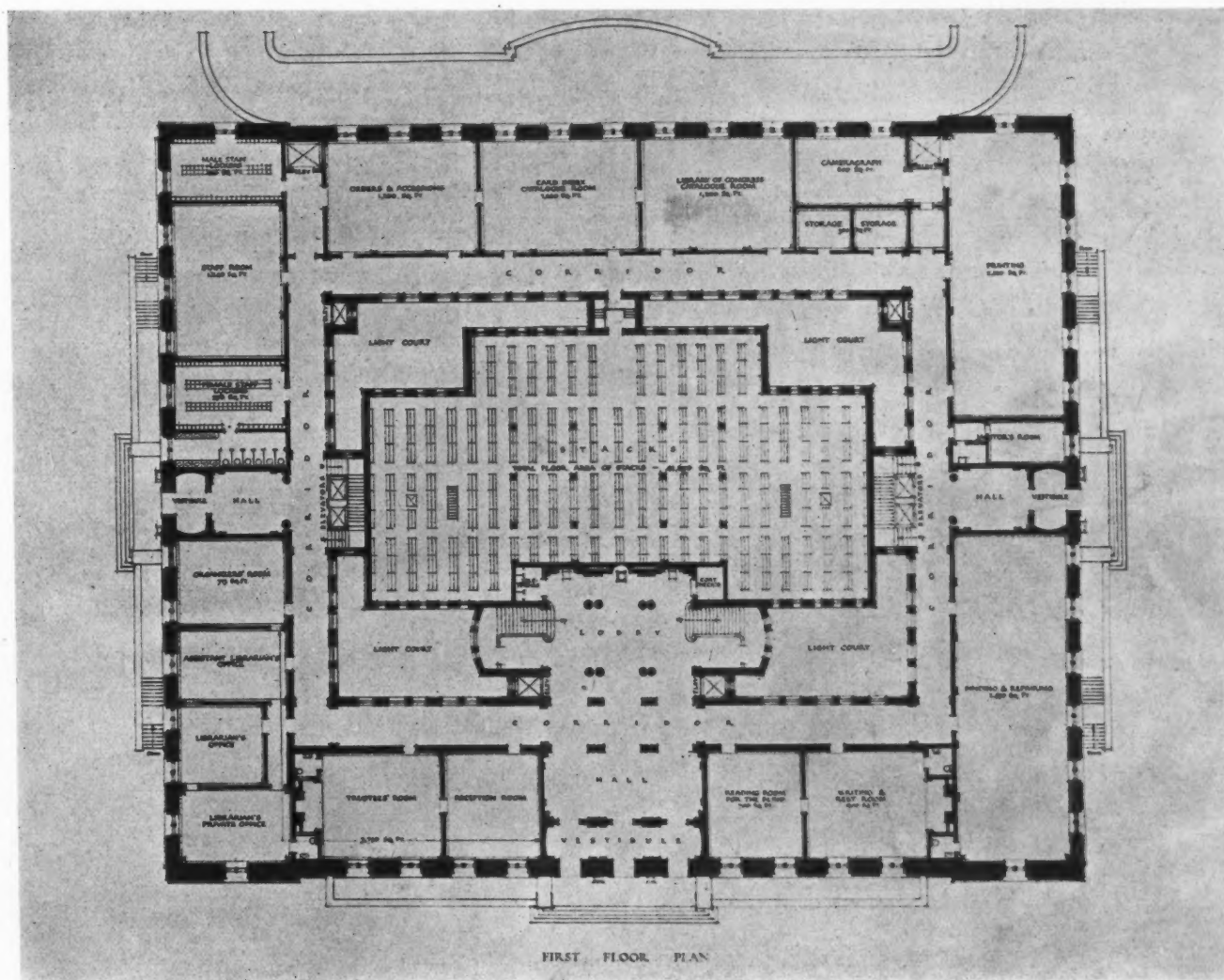


SACRAMENTO STATE BUILDINGS COMPETITION
First Floor Plan of Library and Courts Building

Dennison & Hiron, Architects



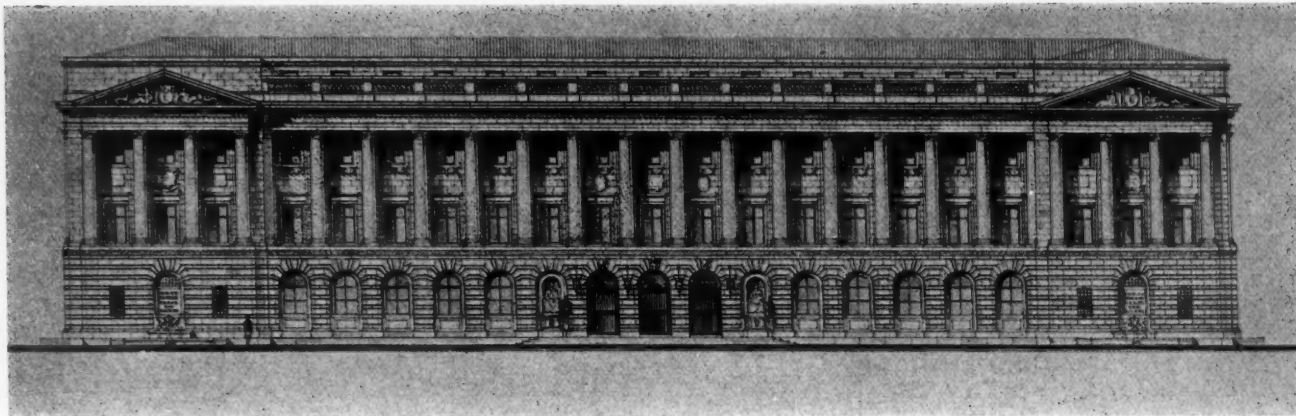
FRONT ELEVATION



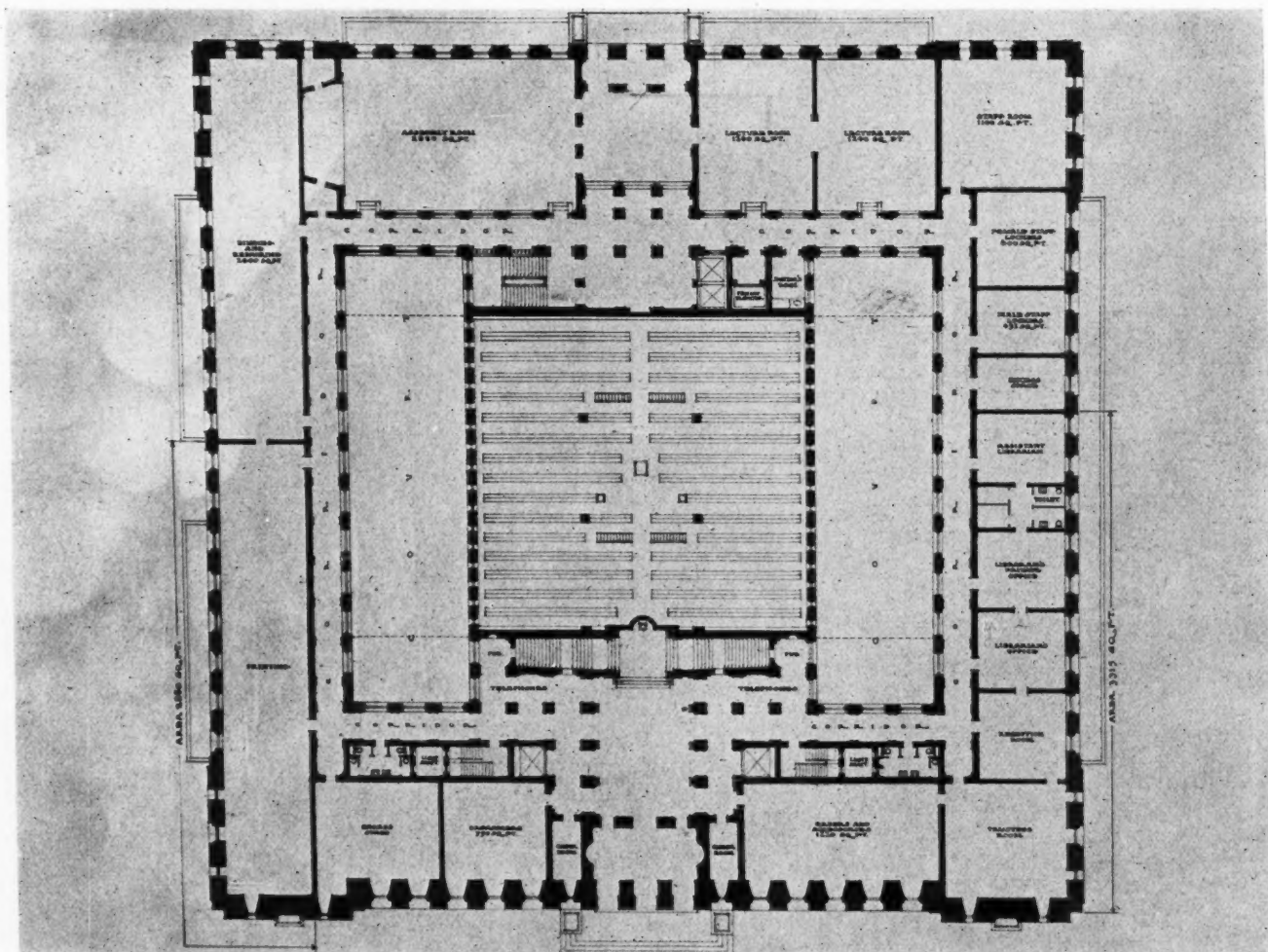
SACRAMENTO STATE BUILDINGS COMPETITION

First Floor Plan of Library and Courts Building

Wm. D. Hewitt & Percy Ash, Architects; N. C. Curtis, Associate



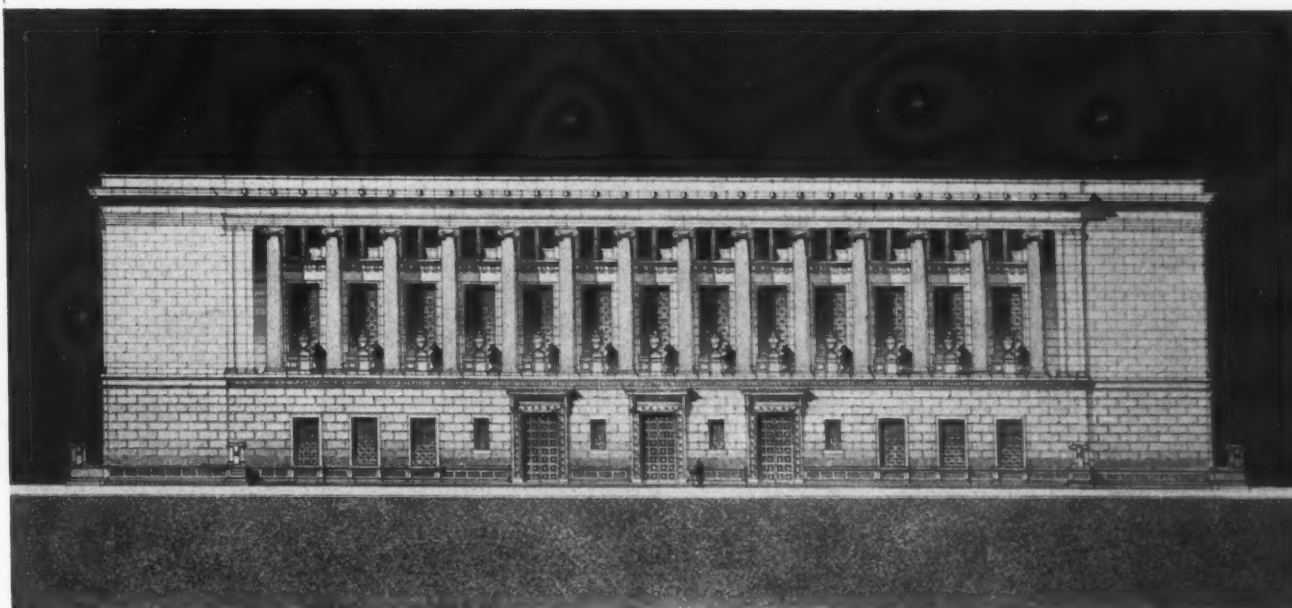
Front Elevation of Library and Courts Building



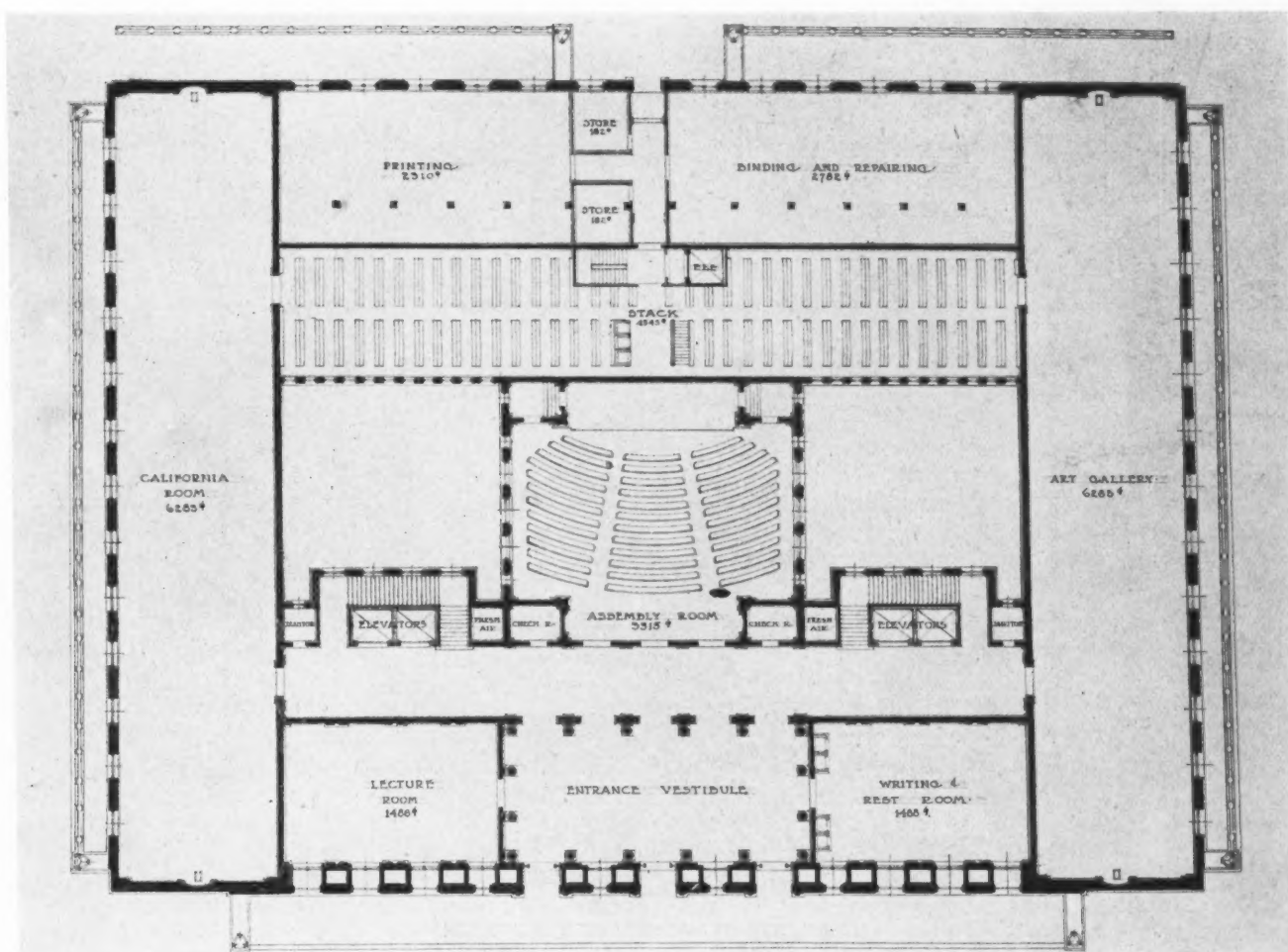
SACRAMENTO STATE BUILDINGS COMPETITION

First Floor Plan of Library and Courts Building

James Gamble Rogers, Architect

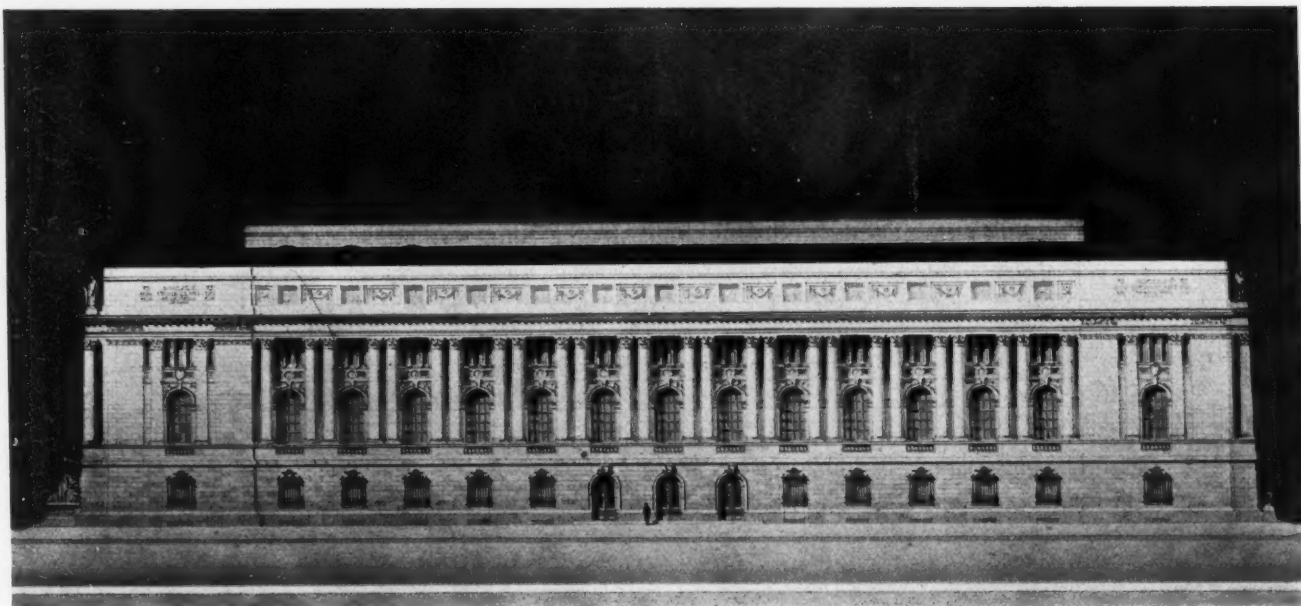


Front Elevation of Library and Courts Building

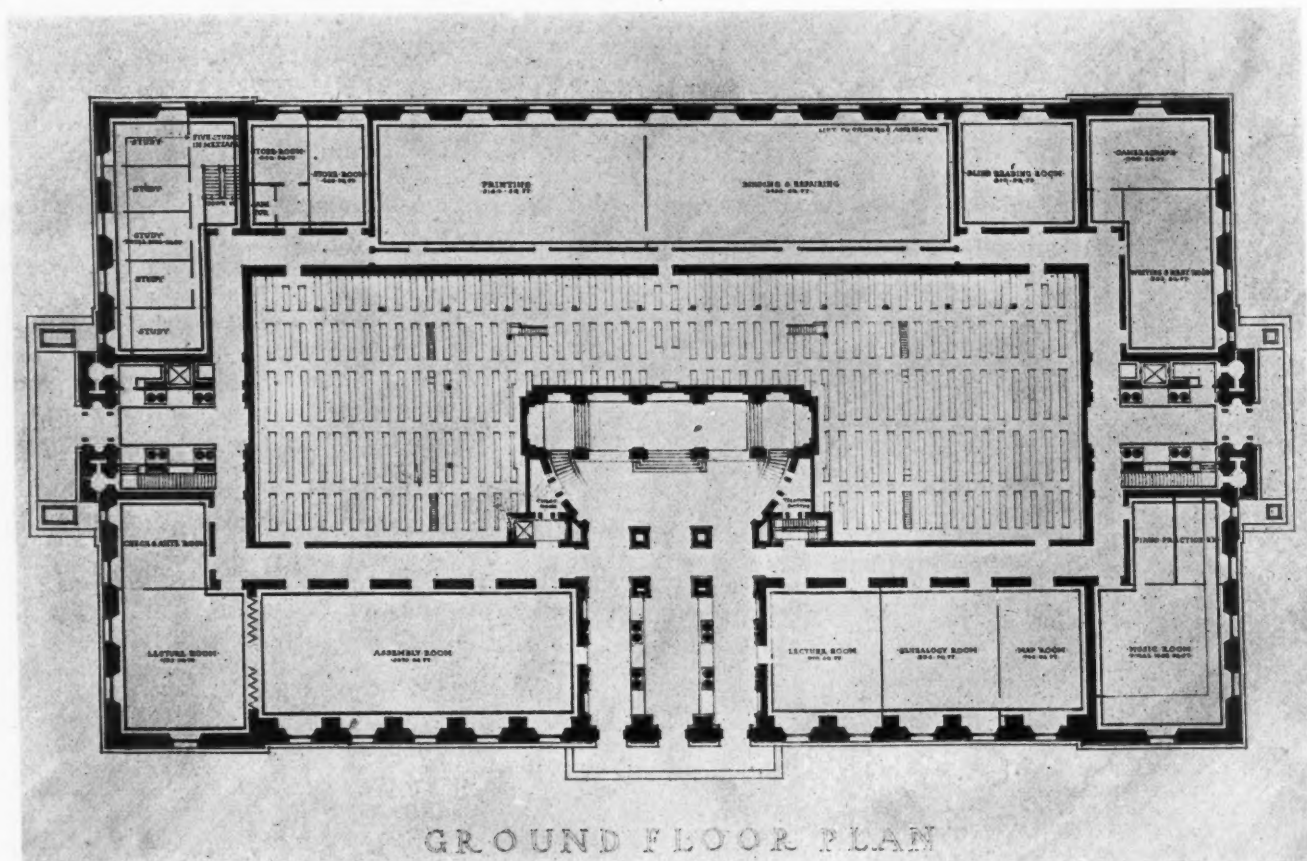


SACRAMENTO STATE BUILDINGS COMPETITION
First Floor Plan of Library and Courts Building

Adolf Scherrer, Architect



FRONT ELEVATION



GROUND FLOOR PLAN

SACRAMENTO STATE BUILDINGS COMPETITION
Ground Floor Plan of Library and Courts Building

Tracy & Swartwout, Architects

are really quite unnecessary, as occasional experience has refreshingly proved. Wasteful as they must be, therefore, our best promise for the future is not in suppressing or discouraging competitions, but in getting rid of their objectionable features—in eliminating wastes and abuses on the one hand, and on the other hand in assuring that compensation be both general and liberal, in so far these things are humanly practicable. This may imply a variety of things; but they will all reflect the one fundamental obligation of respecting not only the client's desires and the winner's rights, (which is as far as competitions ordinarily go), but the interests of every single architect in the competition.

Waste in architectural competitions is usually one of two kinds; waste of mental effort in extracting verbal meanings, and waste of physical effort in the graphical presentation of ideas. Waste of the first kind is the most exasperating, and in view of the assumed standing of our profession it would seem to be the least excusable as well. The writer of a competition programme need not be a stylist, but he certainly should have a serviceable vocabulary, should realize the precise force and meaning of each word he uses, and should be able to express requirements and conditions simply, clearly and logically—in other words, he should have adequate command of the English language. If he succeeds in this, then all the rest is the competitor's own affair. Unfortunately the programme writer is by no means the only sinner. What a basketful of correspondence piles up when (as sometimes happens) not only is the programme somewhat vague and incomplete, but the resulting inquiries, answers, and counter-inquiries are all more or less deficient and only add to the seemingly hopeless confusion! I should add, in justice to the recent programme, that in this respect it seemed no worse than usual.

While it is easy thus to find fault with the misuse of language in many of our programmes, it is neither so easy nor so safe to take exception to their content. This is an entirely different ground. For, aside from mere form and expression, the writer of a programme has really a delicate task in strictly limiting the meaning and views he should convey. He must define unmistakably every condition and requirement, optional and mandatory; but beyond that point he must thoroughly efface himself, avoid every kind of prepossession, and leave the main problem absolutely to the free judgment of the competitors—not by any means to their mere skill as draughtsmen. It is far better to err widely in this direction than to impose a pre-determined scheme, or to stick to some rigid preconception and thus stultify the entire competition. It seems hardly necessary, however, to push reticence so far that competitors are compelled to inquire as to the real purposes and relations of the required spaces. Something like this (or was it confusion?) seems to have happened in the recent competition, quite aside from the usual run of foolish questions. The essential conditions of a problem can always be clearly and sufficiently stated, and even their relative weights indicated, while the competitor's big problem of the whole remains untouched.

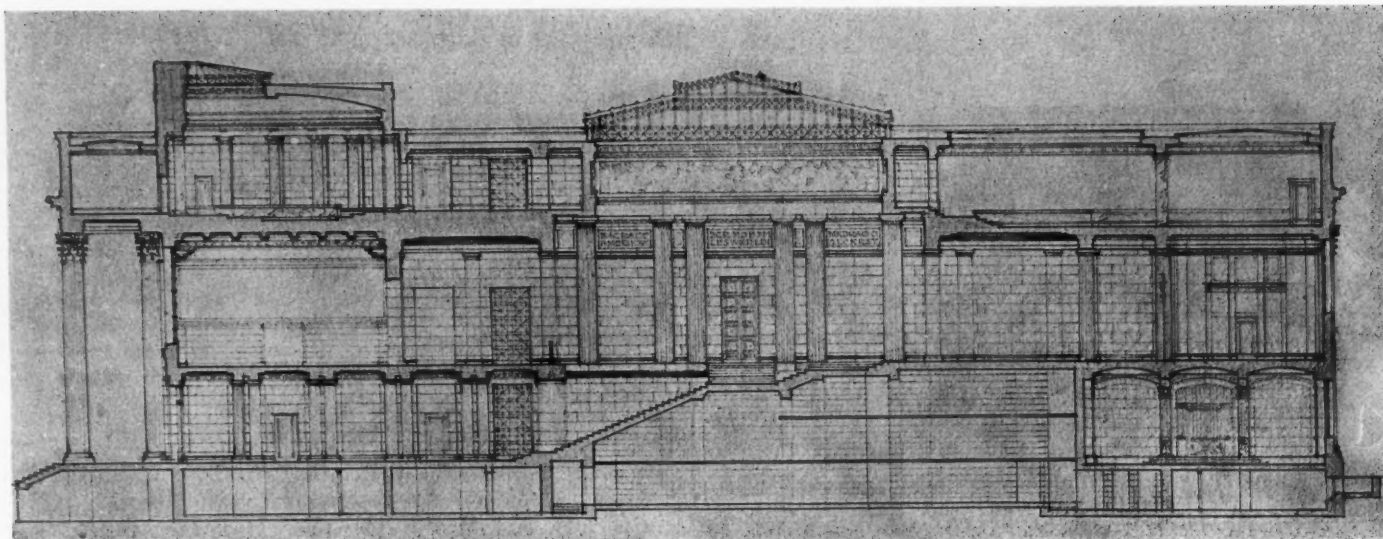
Waste of mere physical energy in competitions is even more notorious, since it usually compels a more direct and painful outlay in cash. Really it should not require a corps of highly paid henchmen to set forth an archi-

tect's conception of an improvement in a manner quite adequate for intelligent comparison. What is the alternative? One measure of relief may be found in prescribing simpler rendering, as is occasionally done, or in requiring only pencil drawings on tracing paper. Unmounted pencil tracings, in fact, are all that the professional juror should require. Obviously, however, they will hardly serve the lay juror (who we must remember is nearly always with us), nor will they do justice either to untrained public opinion, upon which we depend, or to the professional juror himself in a large and important public competition. For the juror's work is exacting enough, if conscientiously undertaken, and we cannot fairly make it harder. We must recognize the limits to this remedy of simplifying competition drawings; and whether we can actually afford it or not we must be willing to present them with all the splendor that circumstances may require.

This makes it all the more imperative that we should insist upon another, and very practicable, measure of relief—a restriction of the number and size of drawings. There is really room for improvement here. When the number of floors is necessarily large, the least important floor plans should be omitted, and the less important of those remaining should be shown at smaller scale. The endless duplication of superfluous lettering might well be eliminated, and every reasonable device should be used to limit the number and size of the sheets. This should operate to the advantage of every one concerned, including the jurors; for, aside from the competitor's efforts saved or concentrated to better purpose, it should make comparison far easier and judgment much more direct and certain. The competitor's graphic message to the jury, like the advisor's verbal message to the competitor, must of course be sufficiently complete and unmistakable. But not one jot or tittle more!

As for the various abuses which have seemed inseparable from competitions, being, as they are, inherent in human nature, little need be said; for I like to believe they are fast disappearing. A flagrant or even a slight offense of any kind usually prompts the corresponding corrections and safeguards in subsequent programmes—safeguards against careless procedure, the accidental disclosure of identity and other mishaps or assumed privileges that tend to deprive a competitor of his rights or give unfair advantage. For of all the games in the world, the architectural competition is distinctly and exclusively a game for gentlemen. Happily the architect's training and trusts tend to make him one of these, even though he unfortunately lack the instincts. And nowhere in his whole field of practice does he find more room for gentlemanly conduct, with all that the phrase implies, than as an advisor, or juror, or participant, or particularly as a loser in a competition.

Having minimized the wastes of competitions as far as we are able (but without waiting to correct all the abuses), we should next increase to the utmost limit the competitor's every compensation. Since pure fun and post-graduate self-education are about all that the average competitor gets out of it, the advisor ought to see that the educational value at least is duly stressed. This means, for one thing, that the competitors should be given all possible opportunities, by convenient exhibitions, to



Cross Section

SACRAMENTO STATE BUILDINGS COMPETITION

Ward & Blohme, Architects

study each other's drawings, to the end that full and free discussion and criticism may be invited. Above all it means that the process of reasoning by which the jury reaches its selection shall be disclosed fully and without reservation. It is taken for granted, in all fairness, that each competitor's submission will be carefully and systematically judged by the experts of the jury, in full consideration of the printed programme, and of it alone. It should be equally expected and exacted that the report of the jury shall be no short perfunctory affair, but a thorough discussion and analysis of the whole problem and a most painstaking assessment of its various solutions. Such a report would be of itself a comfortable guarantee of discriminating judgment, and a measure of the seriousness and skill with which a jury has met its duties. It would afford the only adequate means, now generally almost lacking, by which the average competitor can really find out where he stands. Surely the architect who has ventured his time and money in a competition is entitled to at least this much compensation.

Yet another thing: the responsibility of the jury for precise judgment should be coupled with complete independence in criticism. This would not only increase the competitor's compensation, but it should hasten the improvement of competitions at large. With both of these excellent services in view it is really an egregious waste to have the jury's exceptional discrimination and criticism stop short with the competitors. Why should not this body give us its own opinion of the programme, with suggestions which future advisors will value? Why should it not feel free, and also bound, to evaluate the entire competition in judicial and impersonal fashion, to the great benefit of the whole profession? The broader the views we get, the sooner the logic of the practice will emerge to show us why, how and when public competitions should be limited; why the double stage competition, and how it should be regulated; whether the competition should be for the purpose of finding the solution of a problem or the architect for a building; and what the complexion of the jury itself should be. There is no reason, in fact, why the competition jury should not be as independent as our legal judiciary, or at least sufficiently free in these directions fully to serve the competitor's dearly acquired interests as well as those of the public at large. Possibly I overemphasize a little, and I cannot stop to say how the thing might be done. But

do not doubt that if this position of full responsibility and independence of juries is as desirable as I make it, we shall somehow, and shortly, see it attained.

Meanwhile, as matters improve, the average competitor may learn some exceedingly valuable lessons. As judgment becomes more exact, he will realize more and more clearly that the competition is not really a game of chance, but a supreme test of his own mature and cultivated judgement. The mere assurance of what is to come should properly deter the dabbler, and discourage the speculator in stunts and the clever fellow who neglects all serious study until the last two weeks and then tries to put over a belated "hunch." The foreknowledge of a strict judicial accounting and criticism should remind the purely commercial practitioner that in order to win a good competition one must consistently practice winning architecture, cost what it may; that one cannot compromise with the devil in every-day design and then live down low standards over night—no, not even with all the clever and expensive help one may employ. On the other hand, such a promise should encourage (and should duly reward) those who take up the problem most seriously and promptly, who canvass the possibilities most painstakingly, who weigh them all the most precisely, who exercise in the highest degree that matured and refined judgement which comes only from habitual seriousness and elevation and who then forestall most brilliantly (but not too brilliantly) the jury's own conclusion! To be personal in these last few words, this is the simple little thing that our friend Mr. Charles Peter Weeks has just done, (and which others of our San Francisco Architects have come near to doing) in winning his distinguished honors in the national field. He once began an article, I now recall, by saying that an architectural competition is an examination in architecture. He very well knows it is much more than that, in the ordinary sense. For one thing at least, if the programme be a good criterion, it is a most thorough and searching examination of the architect himself. Incidentally any young architect who wishes to rise above the average competitor, with whom I have been so much concerned, may gather some fruitful suggestions. He has only to develop the right qualities, live the right kind of lofty professional life, apply judiciously the formula just now divulged—and some day he will find himself almost, if not quite, the winner of a competition!



List of Architects and Draughtsmen in Military Service

San Francisco Chapter

Harris C. Allen
E. P. Antonovich
John Bakewell

John A. Baur
Ernest Coxhead
Franklin T. Georgeson

John Davis Hatch
B. S. Hirschfeld
John Galen Howard

James T. Narbett
Ernest L. Norberg
Sidney B. Newsom

Walter D. Reed
W. O. Raiguel

San Francisco Architectural Club

Walter Reed
John Branner
Albert Cauldwell
Harvey E. Harris
Harry Abrahms
E. B. Bangs
W. I. Garren
Chas. J. Masten
Lester Hurd
Henry Howard
Earnest De Cheene
Herbert Brown
Clement Ambros
Guy L. Brown
Ed. H. Russ
P. Fisher

H. O. Elliot
M. Schwartz
J. W. Oliver
E. K. Martin
L. A. Keyser
Louis Saylor
T. E. A. Tellefsen
Mr. Freer
Clyde Payne
Fred Kramer
Joseph Cohen
Joseph Cahen
Wallace Stephen
Earl Meyers
Lawrence Kruse
Ross W. Edmonson

Milton Heilfron
Harry Devine
Phil De Longchamps
Edmund J. Burke
W. J. Helm, Jr.
Ed. L. Frick
R. W. Bradley
Gerald Craner
Wm. Smythe
Roy Muhe
Lewis Jackson
Gordon Raeside
Albert W. Burgren
Ed. Sharp
H. P. Buckingham
J. L. Bourgeois

Mr. Nickelson
Mr. Corking
Roland Stringham
Fernand Parneitier
Walter Clifford
Harold Weeks
Rodney Jones
Vincent Buckley
M. Meherin
Louis Jacobsen
Arthur Jory
Stafford L. Jory
C. V. Calvert
J. Bettencourt
Walter Stone
N. A. Reinecker

C. O. Clausen
C. Ambrose
Wm. Debrunner
John McHenry, Jr.
Wm. Rankin
Fernand Allamand
H. F. Uttley
L. D. Howell
Fred Brauer
A. S. Roguel
Lex Kelley
Howard McMullin
E. Boldeman
Harold Danheim
Edward Tillman

Southern California Chapter

Edward C. Taylor
Robert M. Taylor

Dwight Wallace
Arthur Evans
C. P. Hill
Eugene Weston
Seth Wharton

Ross Montgomery
John T. Vawter

Joseph Weston
Robert Lockwood
Archie Zimmerman
Jos. Fiel
H. A. Jackson

P. H. Frohman
D. C. Allison
Kenneth C. Albright
Emmet G. Martin
Chas. A. Wall
Sam W. Williams
John Hasemeir

Edgar H. Cline
Walter S. Davis
Chas. Schweissinger
James Hanenstein
B. A. Freeman
Carl Sjoberg
James Connell

Karl D. Schwendener
Robert D. Farquhar

William E. Murphy
Russell Ray
Myron E. Moore
George J. Hodenpyl, Jr.
Duane Lyon

Washington Chapter

Chas. H. Alden
William J. Bayne

Walter Bogart
Joseph S. Cote

Herbert Lindhous

Harold Sexsmith

W. M. Somervell

Portland Chapter

Mr. Lorings
J. J. Burling
Russell Collins
J. Andre Fouilhoux
Harold Doty
Edwin Merrill

John Stanton
Warren Hathaway
George Otteu
Chester Truichell
Jay Keller
T. Turner

C. Merrian
Lloyd Dittrich
J. Tourtellotte
L. C. Rosenberg
Artie Marshall
Earl Heitschmidt

John McGuire
Peter Jensen
Howard Hall
H. W. Ward
Fred A. Fritsch
Eyler Brown

Walter Church
Dell Hinson
Harvey Madden
O. Lyllenberg
Glenn Stanton

Official News of Pacific Coast Chapters, A. I. A.

The regular minutes of meetings of all Pacific Coast Chapters of the American Institute of Architects are published on this page each month.

San Francisco Chapter, 1881—President, John Bakewell, Jr., 251 Kearny Street, San Francisco, Cal. Secretary, Morris M. Bruce, Flood Building, San Francisco, Cal. Chairman of Committee on Public Information, William B. Faville, Balboa Building, San Francisco. Chairman of Committee on Competition, William Mooser, Nevada Bank Building, San Francisco. Date of Meetings, third Thursday of every month; Annual, October.

Southern California Chapter, 1894—President, J. J. Backus, Room 35, City Hall, Los Angeles, Cal. Secretary, H. F. Withey, 1017 Van Nuys Building, Los Angeles, Cal. Chairman of Committee on Information, W. C. Pennell, Wright & Callender Building, Los Angeles. Date of Meetings, second Tuesday, except July and August, at Los Angeles.

Oregon Chapter, 1911—President, Joseph Jacobberger, Board of Trade Building, Portland, Ore. Secretary, Alfred H. Smith, Board of Trade Building, Portland, Ore. Chairman of Committee on Public Information, Joseph Jacobberger. Date of Meetings, third Thursday of every month at Portland; Annual, October.



Washington State Chapter, 1894—President, Daniel R. Huntington, Seattle, First Vice-President, A. H. Albertson, Seattle, Second Vice-President, George Gove, Pullman. Third vice-President, Albert Held, Spokane. Secretary, Gerald C. Field, Seattle. Treasurer, Frank L. Baker, Seattle. Counsels: Charles H. Bebb, James H. Schack, James Stephen. Date of Meetings, first Wednesday, except July, August and September, at Seattle, except one in spring at Tacoma. Annual, November.

The American Institute of Architects—The Octagon, Washington, D. C. Officers for 1918: President, Thomas R. Kimball, Omaha, Neb.; First Vice-President, Charles A. Favrot, New Orleans, La.; Second Vice-President, George S. Mills, Toledo, Ohio; Secretary, William Stanley Baker, Boston, Mass.; Treasurer, D. Everett Waid, New York, N. Y.

Directors for Three Years—Edward W. Donn, Jr., Washington, D. C.; Robert D. Kohn, New York, N. Y.; Richard Schmidt, Chicago, Ill. **Directors for Two Years**—William B. Faville, San Francisco, Cal.; Burt L. Fenner, New York, N. Y.; Ellis F. Lawrence, Portland, Ore. **Directors for One Year**—Edwin H. Brown, Minneapolis, Minn.; Ben L. Lubschez, Kansas City, Mo.; Horace Wells Sellers, Philadelphia, Pa.

Minutes of San Francisco Chapter

SEPTEMBER 19th, 1918.

The regular monthly meeting of the San Francisco Chapter of the American Institute of Architects was held at Lacay's Restaurant, 80 Ellis Street, on Thursday evening, September 19, 1918. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Sylvain Schnaittacher, the Vice-President, at 8 p.m.

The following members were present: Morris M. Bruce, J. W. Dolliver, Wm. C. Hays, J. S. Fairweather, W. B. Faville, William Mooser, M. O'Brien, Smith O'Brien, Arthur G. Scholz, Sylvain Schnaittacher, Charles P. Weeks, Edgar A. Mathews, and Mr. John H. Vogel, as a guest of the Chapter.

MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on June 20th, 1918, were read and approved. No meetings were held during July and August owing to summer vacation.

STANDING COMMITTEES

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Mr. Schnaittacher for the Board of Directors reported that the Board had held a meeting and among other matters considered, was correspondence between Mr. Bakewell and Mr. Allison relative to the amendment of the State License Law at the next meeting of the Legislature, and reported it was the sense of the Board that it was inadvisable to act on this matter at the present time.

The fact that Mr. John Bakewell, Jr., President of the Chapter, and Mr. John Galen Howard had left for Red Cross Work in France, was also announced.

S. F. SUB-COMMITTEE ON COMPETITIONS: No report.

INSTITUTE RELATIONS: The reading of the report of the Chairman of this committee, John Galen Howard, was deferred until the Annual Meeting to be held October 17th.

COMMITTEE ON MUNICIPAL MATTERS: No report.

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION: No report.

COMMITTEE ON RELATIONS WITH COAST CHAPTERS: No report.

COMMITTEE ON PROGRAMS OF MEETINGS: No report.

COMMITTEE TO STUDY BUILDING CONDITIONS: No report.

COMMITTEE ON BUILDING EXHIBIT: No report.

CHAPTER TRUSTEES (Books with S. F. Architectural Club): No report.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE THE PRACTICABILITY OF COMBINING WITH S. F. ARCHITECTURAL CLUB:

A written report was submitted by Mr. Fred H. Meyer.

COMMITTEE ON EXHIBITION AT FINE ARTS PALACE:

Mr. Charles P. Weeks as Chairman stated that he had collected the balance amounting to \$60.00 due the San Francisco Art Association and turned a check for the amount over to the Chapter.

COMMUNICATIONS

A communication from Mr. W. H. Crim, Jr., regarding his resignation from the Chapter was read.

NEW BUSINESS

With reference to the resignation of Mr. W. H. Crim, Jr., on motion duly made, seconded and carried, the Chair was directed to appoint a committee to request Mr. Crim to reconsider his resignation. The Chair appointed Mr. Hooser on this committee.

The report of Mr. Fred H. Meyer, who was appointed to investi-

gate the practicability of combining with the S. F. Architectural Club, was read.

A general discussion followed and Mr. Meyer was thanked for his report.

The Chapter's Trustees for the books in care of the Architectural Club were directed to report to the Chapter on the condition of the books and the financial and general condition of the Architectural Club.

With reference to the correspondence between Mr. Bakewell and Mr. Allison regarding the amendment to the License Law, it was duly moved, seconded and carried that no action be taken in regard to the revision of the Architects' License Law for the present, owing to the chaotic conditions due to the war, and that the Secretary of the Southern California Chapter be notified accordingly.

NOMINATION OF OFFICERS

The following nominations for officers for the ensuing year were made:

Mr. Faville, duly seconded, nominated Mr. Schnaittacher for President. There being no other nominations, the nomination was declared closed.

Mr. Mooser, duly seconded, nominated Mr. Hays for Vice-President. There being no other nominations, the nomination was declared closed.

Mr. Schnaittacher nominated Mr. Bruce for Secretary, and the nomination was seconded, and there being no other nominations, the nomination was declared closed.

Mr. Mathews, duly seconded, nominated Mr. Faville for a Director for three years, and

Mr. Scholz, duly seconded, nominated Mr. Mooser for a Director for three years. There being no other nominations, the nominations were declared closed.

BALLOTS ON CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

The ballots on the Constitution and By-Laws having been received and it having been determined that this number was insufficient to determine the result, the Chair was directed to appoint a committee to see that all members who had not cast their ballots should do so before the next meeting of the Chapter, when the ballots would be counted.

It was also decided, on motion duly made, seconded and carried, that the slip requesting a vote on the alternative regarding the committee on competitions, be not considered in the final balloting.

After the business meeting, Mr. Joshua H. Vogel, Associate Secretary of the Y. M. C. A. in charge of the Western Department of Construction, and who has practiced as an architect in Japan, gave a very interesting talk on Japanese architecture. He gave a historical sketch of the original and indigenous Shinto style and described the distinctions between it and the later imported Buddhist style which came from the Asiatic continent.

The question was raised by the speaker as to whether it is best that the Japanese should adopt Occidental architecture as a whole or start from the foundation of their own historical past and assimilate such part of our western systems of construction as may be necessary in order to accommodate modern needs. The hope was generally expressed that the requirements of modern conditions would not make it necessary to abandon the historical architectural inheritance of the Japanese and that there may be a welding of the styles of the East and the West.

The talk and discussion were much enjoyed and at the conclusion Mr. Vogel was given the thanks of the Chapter.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Chapter, the meeting adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

Minutes of San Francisco Chapter, A. I. A.

(Continued from Page 202)

October 17, 1918.

The Annual Meeting of the San Francisco Chapter of the American Institute of Architecture was held at the Palace Hotel, Room "B," on Thursday afternoon, October 17, 1918, at 3 p.m. Mr. Sylvain Schnaittacher, Vice-President, called the meeting to order at 3 p.m.

The following members were present: Morris M. Bruce, J. W. Dolliver, James T. Narbett, William Mooser, Smith O'Brien, T. Patterson Ross, G. A. Lansburgh, George Rushforth, Sylvain Schnaittacher, Henry G. Smith, Arthur G. Scholz, George H. Sanders, Charles P. Weeks.

MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on September 19, 1918, were read and approved.

STANDING COMMITTEES

The following standing committees submitted their annual written reports which were ordered received and placed on file: Materials Exhibit Committee, Committee on Relations with Coast Chapters, S. F. Sub-Committee on Competitions, Chapter Advisory Committee on Competitions.

No reports were received from the following standing committees: Committee on Municipal Matters, Committee on Programs of Meetings, Committee to Study Building Conditions, Committee on Books with S. F. Architectural Club, Committee on Legislation, Committee on Education.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

The Secretary read the annual report of the Board of Directors and of the Secretary-Treasurer, both of which were read and ordered received and placed on file.

The President's annual report was read and ordered received and placed on file.

COMMUNICATIONS

A committee from Mr. J. A. Drummond, Editor of the "Architect," relative to the elimination of the heading "Official Organ of the San Francisco Chapter, A. I. A." from the "Architect"; from Mr. H. F. Withey, Secretary of the Southern California Chapter, A. I. A., asking for the balance of the account in re Assembly Bill No. 1126; from Mr. E. C. Kemper, Executive Secretary of the A. I. A., relative to the delinquency of the Chapter's Institute Members; from the Home Industry League, extending a cordial invitation to the members to attend the next weekly luncheon of the League which was to be devoted to the architects.

NEW BUSINESS

It was moved by Mr. Lansburgh, and duly seconded, that a committee be appointed by the President to formulate a plan for collecting dues from delinquent members.

The Chair announced that this Chapter, having supplemented a protest of the New York Chapter against the erection of the Barnard Statue of Lincoln in London, that Senator Phelan of California, in view of this action, had introduced a bill in the United States Senate requiring that all matters of this nature be approved by the National Commission on Fine Arts. On motion duly made, seconded and carried, the Secretary was directed to express to Senator Phelan the appreciation of this Chapter for his action.

It was moved, seconded and carried that the report of the Committee on Institute Relations be spread on the minutes and printed and copies sent to all members of the Chapter.

The number of ballots received for the revised Constitution and By-Laws of the Chapter being insufficient, it was duly moved, seconded and carried that the time for opening the ballots be extended until the next meeting.

A vote of thanks was tendered to the administration of last year for their services during the term.

It was duly moved and seconded that Weeks and Day be congratulated on their winning the competition for the Capitol Extension Buildings in Sacramento.

It was duly moved, seconded and carried that the Chapter indicate its appreciation by spreading on the Minutes of the Chapter the names of the following members who have, up to this date, volunteered and been accepted for War Service:

Harris C. Allen, U. S. A.
E. P. Antonovich, U. S. A.
John A. Baur, U. S. A.
John Bakewell, Jr. (Red Cross.)
Ernest A. Coxhead (Y. M. C. A.)
F. T. Georgeson, U. S. A.
John Davis Hatch, U. S. A.
John Galen Howard (Red Cross.)
Ernest L. Norberg, U. S. A.
A. D. Nicholson, British Army.
Sidney B. Newsom, U. S. A.
Walter H. Parker, U. S. A.
W. O. Raiguel, U. S. A.
Walter D. Reed, U. S. A.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The next order of business being the election of officers for the ensuing year, the Secretary was directed to cast the ballot for

the regular nominees, whereupon the Chair announced that the following had been elected to serve the Chapter for the ensuing year:

Sylvain Schnaittacher, President; Wm. C. Hays, Vice-President; Morris B. Bruce, Secretary; and William B. Faville and William Mooser, to serve as members of the Board of Directors for three years.

Mr. Schnaittacher, accepting the Presidency, delivered an address.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Chapter, the meeting adjourned at.....p.m.

MORRIS M. BRUCE, Secretary.

Subject to Approval....., 1918.

Minutes of Southern California Chapter

The twelfth annual meeting of the Southern California Chapter, American Institute of Architects, was held at the office of Mr. J. E. Allison, 1405 Hibernian Building, Tuesday evening, October 8th, 1918.

The meeting was called to order by the President, Mr. J. J. Backus, at 7:30 p.m., the following members being present: J. E. Allison, J. J. Backus, Lyman Farwell, John Krempel, S. T. Norton, H. M. Patterson, A. Wackerbarth, H. F. Withey.

Minutes of the 119th meeting were read and approved.

For the Board of Directors, the Secretary presented two recommendations, the first being to advance Mr. Theodore Eisen to the position of Honorary Chapter member. The President thereupon expressed his sentiments in favor of the recommendation, after which it was moved by Mr. Patterson, seconded by Mr. Krempel and unanimously carried, that the recommendation of the Directors be accepted.

The second recommendation was that in view of the probable adoption of the Constitution and By-Laws, in conformity with which the fiscal year would begin on January first, 1919, that the present fiscal year should be extended to December 31st, 1918. The President outlined the advantages of this recommendation, and there being no dissent by those present, the Chair pronounced the recommendation as accepted and approved. In consequence of which action, the election of officers, annual reports, etc., were postponed till the January meeting.

No committee reports were made.

Under "Communications" the Secretary presented a letter from the City Clerk in which it was stated that the City Council had denied the Chapter's petition for a Charter Amendment to be placed upon the November ballot.

Under "Unfinished Business" the revised Constitution and By-Laws were presented. It was moved by Mr. Patterson, duly seconded and unanimously carried, that the same be adopted by this Chapter.

Following a general discussion on the subject of future meetings, it was agreed that they should be held in conjunction with a dinner, as has previously been the custom, and also that a discussion of the Housing and Hotel Law Amendments be entered into as an item of business for the next regular meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

H. F. WITHEY, Secretary.

Minutes of Oregon Chapter

Held at 1122 Board of Trade Building, Portland, Oregon, September 12th, 1918.

Meeting called to order by President Jacobberger, with the following members present: Webber, Naramore and Smith.

The treasurer having reported that the Chapter was out of funds, with bills owing, it was decided to ask all members to pay their dues in advance for the coming year. The members present paid their dues in this manner and expressed the hope that all members would cooperate in this matter.

Minutes of Special Meeting of Oregon Chapter, A. I. A.

Held at Commercial Club, Portland, Oregon, September 16, 1918.

Members present: Jacobberger, Webber, Lawrence, Whitehouse, Post, Holford, Naramore and Smith.

The report from the Committee on Housing was presented and approved.

On motion by Whitehouse, seconded by Holford, Mr. Lawrence was authorized to report that the Chapter was willing to offer its services as follows:

The Housing Committee of the Oregon Chapter of the American Institute of Architects offers free professional advice on Housing

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THE ARCHITECT

VOL. XVI

SAN FRANCISCO, OCTOBER, 1918

NO. 4

Editorial.

IN 1916 the people of California authorized the issuance of bonds to the amount of \$3,000,000.00 for State Buildings to be erected in Sacramento. The site, donated by the City of Sacramento, consists of two entire blocks of land opposite the west (main) front of the State Capitol, bounded by Ninth, Tenth, L and N Streets. In 1917 a competition was authorized for the selection of an architect to design these buildings. By the terms of the programme, issued December 15, 1917, the architectural advisor was the State Architect, George B. McDougall. The competition was open to all citizens of the United States qualified to practice architecture under the law of California. The Jury was composed of seven members, as follows: the Governor of California, William D. Stephens; the Chief Justice of the State Supreme Court, F. N. Angelotti; the State Librarian, Milton J. Ferguson; the Chairman of the State Board of Control, Marshall de Motte; two architects to be chosen from east of the Mississippi River, William M. Kendall and Henry Bacon, of New York; and one architect to be chosen from California, Sylvain Schnaittacher, of San Francisco. The competition was conducted in two stages. In the first stage, which closed June 1 of this year, forty two architects competed. The second stage, which closed September 15, was open to eight architects selected from the first stage, each of whom received the sum of \$2,500.00. The following were the participants in the second stage: Dennison & Hiron, New York; James Gamble Rogers, New York; Tracy & Swartwout, New York; William D. Hewitt and Percy Ash, N. C. Curits, Associate, Philadelphia; Adolf Scherrer, Indianapolis; Bliss & Faville, San Francisco; Ward & Blohme, San Francisco; Weeks & Day, San Francisco. Early in October Weeks & Day were announced as winner of the competition.

The subject of the competition was two buildings, to each of which was allotted a site about 320 by 340 feet. The block of M Street between Ninth and Tenth Streets which separates these two sites and is on the axis of the Capitol dome has been relinquished by the City of Sacramento, but it was required that it be kept open sufficiently for the access of vehicles to the Capitol. The Capitol building is removed about 360 feet from the line of the sidewalk passing in front of the proposed structures. One building, known as the "Library and Courts Building," is to house the State Library, the State Supreme Court, and the District Court of Appeal, with their accessories. The other, known as the "Office Building,"

is to provide quarters for miscellaneous State departments and commissions. Complete freedom on the competitors' part was restricted by two mandatory provisions of the programme relative to the Library and Courts Building; namely, that the Courts be placed on the top floor, and that the book stacks be located near the center of the structure.

The illustrations of the foregoing pages present practically in its entirety the winning scheme of Weeks & Day, with enough to indicate the nature of that of each of the seven remaining competitors; also examples showing the character of the State Capitol adjoining, a building constructed during the years from 1860 to 1874.

Several remarks might be made in general upon the competition and its conduct. The programme failed to indicate that the existing trees of the Capitol Park are so thick that from no point will it be possible to see the Capitol and the new buildings together. Assuming that these trees are to remain, solicitude in regard to the relations of the new buildings to the old is purely academic. Perhaps we should assume instead that, as so frequently happens in American cities, "improvement" signifies cutting down trees. In the matter of drawings to be rendered it would seem that excessive demands were made upon the competitors, particularly in the first stage, where the number and finish of sheets required were unwarranted. The volume of correspondence from competitors relative to the programme indicated a lack of completeness and precision in defining the use of various rooms, many of them unusual ones. The limitations above mentioned upon the freedom of the competitors in solving the difficult Library and Courts Building brings up a subject open to considerable discussion. It would seem in principle that the very object of a competition is to obtain for the client the freest and widest possible range of suggested solutions from competitors, and that the imposition of an avoidable restriction might forestall a brilliant stroke of genius which would never have occurred to client, advisor, or jury. On the other hand, if there do exist prepossessions on the part of anybody which it is known will have any effect upon the judgment, their clear statement, as in this case, is the only fair policy toward competitors. The report of the jury was inadequate as a statement of reasons leading to the selection of the winning design. Lastly, it is to be regretted that neither public nor profession really had an opportunity to review the competition. The drawings were displayed only at Sacramento, and the exhibition was closed before it was even known to have opened.



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Minutes of Oregon Chapter

(Concluded from Page 203)

to any Portland organization engaged in an approved Housing Venture as a wartime measure.

Should actual maps, layouts and plans be needed at the minimum cost for the success of any approved Housing Venture, the Oregon Chapter will secure such maps, layouts and plans at cost of production. By approved Housing Venture is meant one that is organized to operate with no profits, with no exploitation of the workers—with assured protection of investors, and with a standard of Housing at least equal to the standard of building laid down by the Housing Bureau of the U. S. Government.

The regular monthly meeting of the Oregon Chapter, when the nomination of officers for the coming year will be in order, will be held at the University Club on Thursday, September 19th, at 8 p.m. Meeting will be held in Mr. Naramore's rooms. Your attendance is earnestly requested.

ALFRED H. SMITH, Secretary.

Minutes of Regular Meeting of the Oregon Chapter, A. I. A.

Held at University Club, September 19, 1918.

Meeting opened by President Jacobberger with the following members present: Naramore, Bennes, Schacht, Lazarus, Lawrence, Holford, Whitehouse, Webber, Doyle and Smith.

On motion by Lawrence, seconded by Whitehouse, the Housing Code Committee was requested to send out copies of the Housing Code, asking members to read same and submit objections in writing in three days after date of mailing.

On motion by Lawrence, seconded by Naramore, the President added the names of Naramore, Bennes and Whitehouse to the Housing Committee.

On motion by Holford, seconded by Whitehouse, the names of all the present officers of the Chapter were placed in nomination for re-election for the coming year.

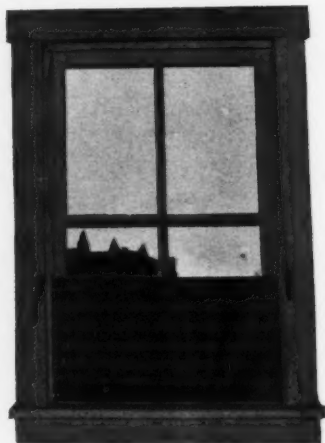
ALFRED H. SMITH, Secretary.

P. S.—Minutes of last meeting to be corrected to read: "The Housing Committee of the Chapter acting for the Chapter, etc."

OFFICIAL POST OFFICE STATEMENT

Statement of the ownership, management, circulation, etc., required by the Act of Congress of August 24, 1912, of THE ARCHITECT, published monthly at San Francisco, Cal., for October 1, 1918, State of California, City and County of San Francisco. Before me, a Notary Public in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared J. A. Drummond, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the owner of THE ARCHITECT and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management (and if a daily paper, the circulation), etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, embodied in section 443, Postal Laws and Regulations, printed on the reverse of this form, to-wit: 1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are: Name of Publisher, The Architect Press; postoffice address, San Francisco, Cal.; Editor, Irving F. Morrow, San Francisco, Cal.; Managing Editor, J. A. Drummond, San Francisco, Cal.; Business Manager, J. A. Drummond, San Francisco, Cal. 2. That the owners are (Give names and addresses of individual owners, or, if a corporation, give its name and the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of the total amount of stock.): J. A. Drummond, 245 Mission Street, San Francisco. 3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are (If there are none, so state): None. J. A. Drummond, Owner. Sworn to and subscribed before me this 4th day of October, 1918. (Seal) W. W. Healey, Notary Public in and for the City and County of San Francisco, State of California. My commission expires August 28, 1921.

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SHADE ONLY WHERE NEEDED



SHADE PARTLY DOWN

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If the shades are hung at the top of the window, they shut out the best light. Yet if hung at the bottom so as to be drawn upward to exclude the rays of the sun, so much of the light is shut out that the children suffer.

A Shade which can be adjusted to any part of the window gives the best service. If roller shades are used, the best arrangement is to have two rollers at a window. One of these should be hung at the bottom and the shade be long enough to reach the middle of the window.

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